はがねのれんきんじゅつし

鋼の錬金術師

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

荒川 弘

Hiromu Arakawa

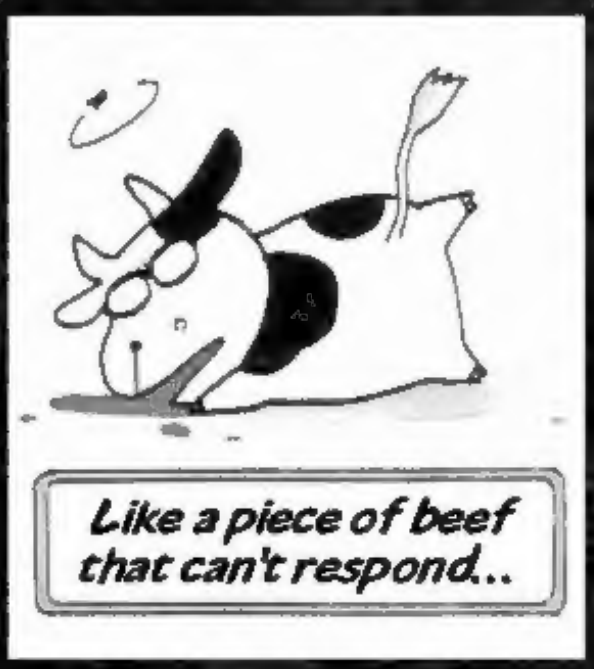
2

GANGAN COMICS

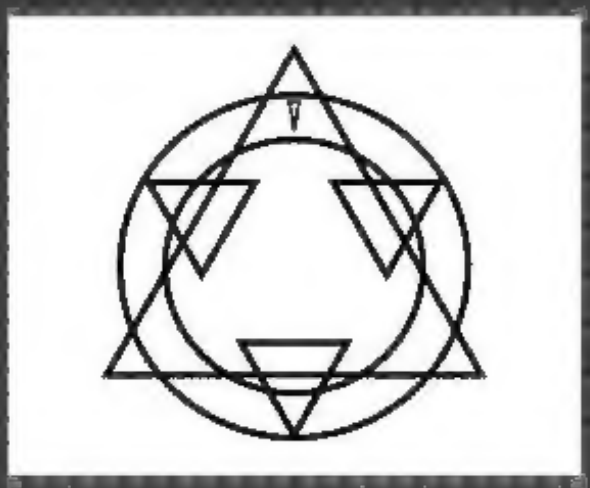
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST™

2

Story and art by
Hiromu Arakawa



It's been a few years since I left home, saying, "I won't come back here until I can make a living drawing manga." I got my wish but now I'm so busy that I don't have time to go home. I feel happy and sad at the same time.
—Hiromu Arakawa, 2002



Born in Hokkaido (northern Japan), Hiromu Arakawa first attracted national attention in 1999 with her award-winning manga **Stray Dog**. Her series **Fullmetal Alchemist** debuted in 2001 in Square Enix's monthly manga anthology **Shonen Gangan**.

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

鋼の錬金術師 2

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

荒川弘

HIROMU ARAKAWA

鋼の錬金術師

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

CHARACTERS
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

■ ショウ・タッカー

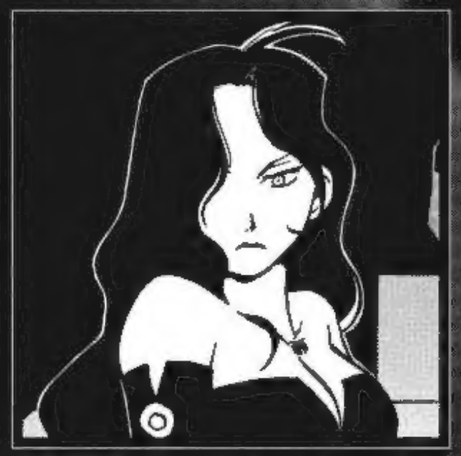
Shou Tucker

■ 傷の男(スカー)

Scar

■ グラトニー

Gluttony



■ ラスト

Lust

■ アルフォンス・エルリック

Alphonse Elric

■ エドワード・エルリック

Edward Elric

■ アレックス・ルイ・アームストロング

Alex Louis Armstrong

■ ロイ・マスタング

Roy Mustang

OUTLINE
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

Using a forbidden alchemical ritual, the Elric brothers attempted to bring their dead mother back to life. But the ritual went wrong, consuming Edward Elric's leg and Alphonse Elric's entire body. At the cost of his arm, Edward was able to graft his brother's soul into a suit of armor. Equipped with mechanical "auto-mail" to replace his missing limbs, Edward becomes a state alchemist, serving the military on deadly missions. Now, the two brothers roam the world in search of a way to regain what they have lost...

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HOW IN THE WORLD DID HE DO THAT!?

OH... SECOND LIEUTENANT HAVOC...

HMM...? YOU'VE NEVER SEEN THE COLONEL SHOOT FIRE BEFORE?

WHOA... THAT WAS AMAZING...

THE COLONEL'S GLOVE IS MADE OUT OF A SPECIAL REACTIVE CLOTH.

WHEN YOU RUB IT TOGETHER, IT SPARKS.

FLICK

AND THEN... BOOM!

THE REST IS JUST ADJUSTING THE OXYGEN LEVEL IN THE AIR AROUND WHAT YOU WANT TO COMBUST...

THAT LITTLE GUY STANDING NEXT TO THE COLONEL IS A STATE ALCHEMIST TOO.

WHAT!!?

SO ***HE'S*** THE ONE WHO CAPTURED ALL THE HIJACKERS?!

ALCHEMISTS ARE PEOPLE WHO CAN DO THESE THINGS.

I UNDERSTAND THE LOGIC BEHIND IT, BUT HOW...?

Chapter 5: The Alchemist's Suffering

SMIRK☆

YOU OWE ME FOR THIS ONE, COLONEL.

HEARING YOU SAY THAT MAKES A CHILL RUN DOWN MY SPINE...

I NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT BIO-ALCHEMY. WHERE CAN I GO AROUND HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION? LIKE A LIBRARY OR AN EXPERT?

RIGHT ***NOW?*** YOU SURE ARE IN A HURRY...

YOU SURE COME RIGHT TO THE POINT. ♪

ALL RIGHT. SO WHAT DO YOU WANT?

IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE WE SAW EACH OTHER... WHY DON'T WE HAVE A CUP OF TEA?

MY ARM AND LEG AREN'T GOING TO JUST GROW BACK IF I WAIT LONG ENOUGH!

IN OTHER WORDS, THERE'S A CHIMERA RESEARCHER IN THIS CITY.

"CHIMERA: AN ARTIFICIAL FUSION CREATED BY ALCHEMICALLY MARRYING' TWO GENETICALLY DISSIMILAR LIFE FORMS."

HERE IT IS.

UMM.. I KNOW IT'S HERE SOME-WHERE...

WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT DRINKING TEA WITH *YOU?*

HE GOT HIS STATE ALCHEMIST'S CERTIFICATION TWO YEARS AGO WHEN HE CREATED A CHIMERA THAT COULD SPEAK.

SHOU TUCKER, THE "SEWING-LIFE ALCHEMIST."

IT COULD UNDER-STAND HUMAN SPEECH, AND IT SPOKE...

THAT WOULD APPEAR TO BE THE CASE. I WASN'T IN CHARGE AT THE TIME, SO I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN IT.

YOU MEAN IT TALKED LIKE A HUMAN? A *CHIMERA*?!

IT COULD *SPEAK*?

"I WANT TO DIE."

BUT ALL IT SAID WAS...

AFTER THAT, IT REFUSED TO EAT AND DIED NOT LONG AFTER.

WELL, ANYWAY, LET'S GO MEET HIM AND SEE WHAT KIND OF PERSON HE IS.

RUSTLE

DING DONG

WHAT A HUGE PLACE...

GYAAA AGGH!

PANT
PANT
PANT
HEY, ALEXANDER. YOU STOP THAT...!
OWW OWW OWW...
I APOLOGIZE FOR THE MESS. IT'S BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE MY WIFE LEFT ME...
WOW, DADDY! LOTS OF GUESTS!
NINA, I *TOLD* YOU TO KEEP THE DOG TIED UP.
OH, I DON'T MIND.
EDWARD'S INTERESTED IN BIOLOGICAL ALCHEMY. I TOLD HIM YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO SHOW HIM YOUR RESEARCH.
I'M SHOU TUCKER. THE ONE THEY CALL THE "SEWING-LIFE ALCHEMIST."
NICE TO MEET YOU, EDWARD.

ALCHEMY IS ABOUT "EQUIVALENT EXCHANGE."

...BUT IF YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT'S UP MY SLEEVE, FIRST YOU HAVE TO SHOW ME WHAT'S UP ***YOURS.***

COL-ONEL.

UM... WELL, HE'S...

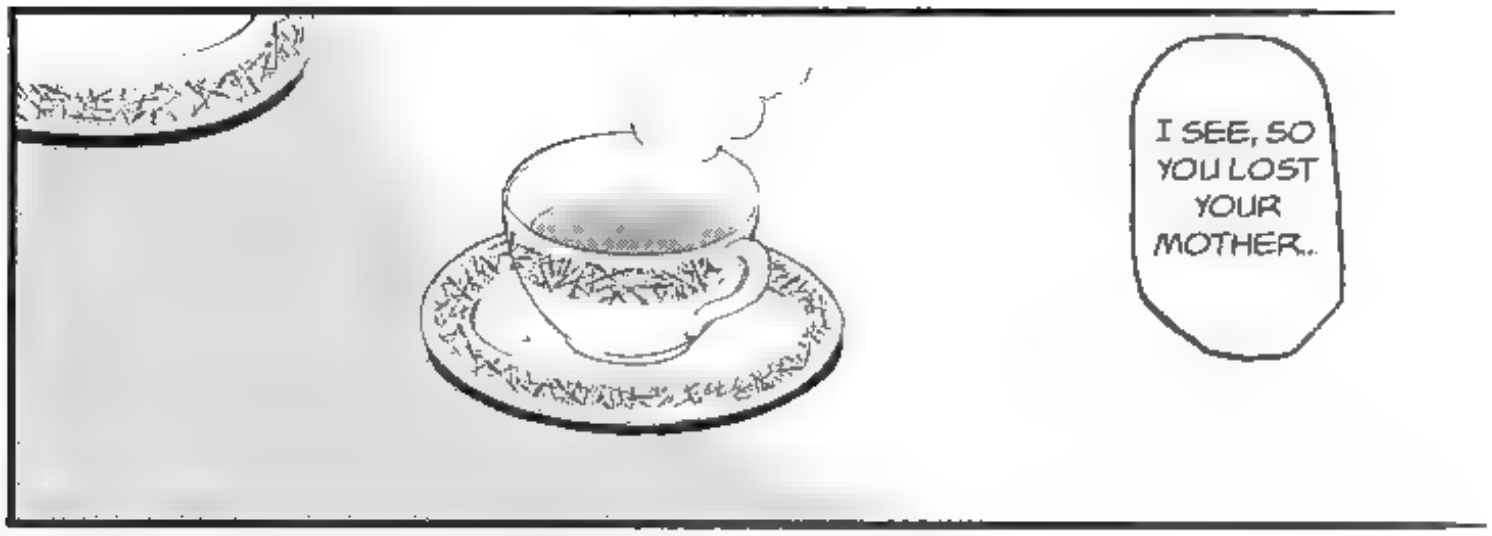
SO, WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BIOLOGICAL TRANS-MUTATION?

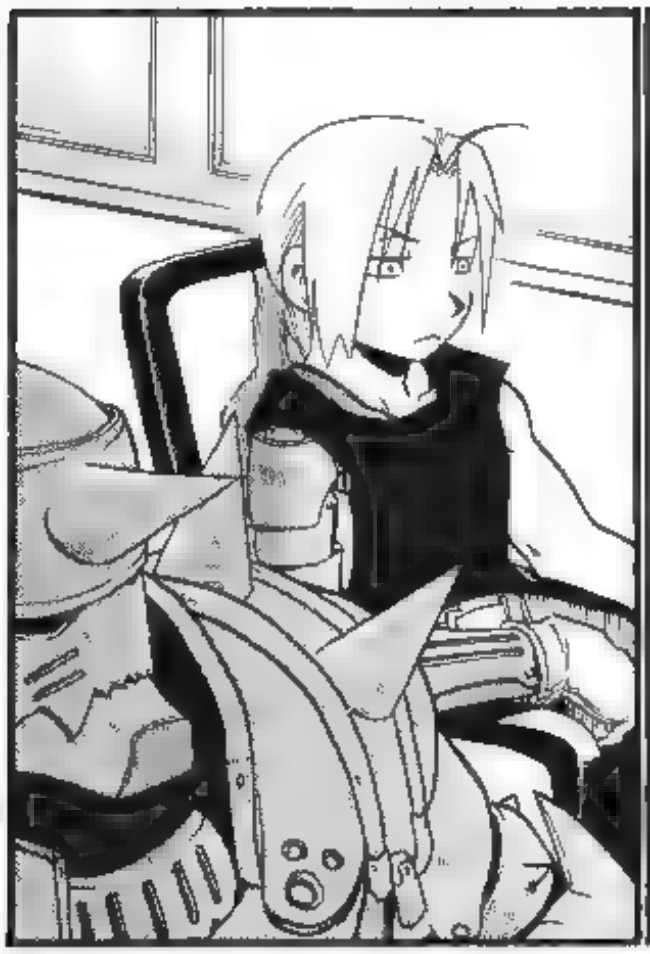
THAT'S WHY YOU'RE CALLED THE "FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST."

MR. TUCKER HAS THE RIGHT TO AN ANSWER.

...

SO..


I SEE, SO YOU LOST YOUR MOTHER..



THAT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD.

NO PROBLEM. I'M SURE THE MILITARY COULDN'T AFFORD TO LOSE SUCH A BRILLIANT INDIVIDUAL.
SURE.
WELL THEN...

I'VE TOLD MY SUPERIORS THAT HE LOST HIS LIMBS IN THE CIVIL WAR IN THE EAST. I MUST ASK YOU TO KEEP QUIET ABOUT HIS ATTEMPTS AT HUMAN TRANSMUTATION.

LET ME SHOW YOU MY LABORATORY, ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE IF IT WILL BE MUCH HELP TO YOU.

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE THE AUTHORITY ON CHIMERAS, BUT IN REALITY, IT'S NEVER EASY. LOTS OF FAILURES... LOTS OF FALSE STARTS.

YOU'VE GOT TO EXCUSE ME...

AHH...

CREE EEK

OOH !

THIS IS MY FILE ROOM.

ALL RIGHT THEN, I'LL START WITH THIS SHELF.

OKAY, I'LL START FROM OVER THERE.

FEEL FREE TO LOOK AROUND. I'LL BE IN THE LAB.

THIS IS INCRED-IBLE!

THANKS.

I'LL SEND SOME OF MY MEN TO GET YOU BEFORE DARK.

ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO. I HAVE TO GET BACK TO WORK.

YES. YOU KNOW HE'S NOT AVERAGE, BECOMING A STATE ALCHEMIST SO YOUNG.

...HE HAS AN AMAZING ABILITY TO FOCUS. WHEN HE'S READING, HE DOESN'T EVEN HEAR THE VOICES AROUND HIM.

GENIUSES REALLY DO EXIST.

I GUESS...

GONG

GONG

I DIDN'T REALIZE THE TIME...

AGH!

UH-OH.

GONG

GONG

ALPHONSE WHERE ARE YOU?

AL!

I WONDER WHERE HE WENT...

OH, HEY BIG BROTHER.

GYAAAAGGH!

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOOKING THROUGH THE DATA, NOT ***BABY-SITTING!***

PANT PANT PANT PANT

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "***HEY, BIG BROTHER***"?

SLURP SLURP

HEY, BIG BROTHER! ALEXANDER SAYS HE WANTS ***YOU*** TO PLAY WITH HIM ***TOO!***

WHY YOU...!

WELL, NINA WANTED *ME* TO PLAY WITH HER, SO...

AHA HA HA "HA HA"

ORYAAAA!

JUST TRY TO SIT ON ME AGAIN, YOU CANINE FIEND! I, EDWARD ELRIC, WILL FIGHT YOU WITH MY ENTIRE BODY AND SOUL!

HOW IMMATURE...

ARF ARF

THEY SAY THAT CATCHING A MERE RABBIT TAKES EVERY BIT OF A LION'S STRENGTH..

PANT PANT PANT PANT

HMPH... YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF NERVE ASKING ME TO PLAY WITH YOU, DOG...

HEY CHIEF, I'M HERE TO PICK YOU UP.

CAAW CAAW

PANT PANT PANT

...MIND IF I ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

OWWW...

...YOU CAN COME BACK TOMORROW.

SO DID YOU FIND ANY USEFUL DATA?

AHEM

UH, WELL... I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'M JUST TAKING A LITTLE BREAK FROM MY RESEARCH!

UH-HUH. LET'S PLAY AGAIN TOMORROW.

SNIFF SNIFF

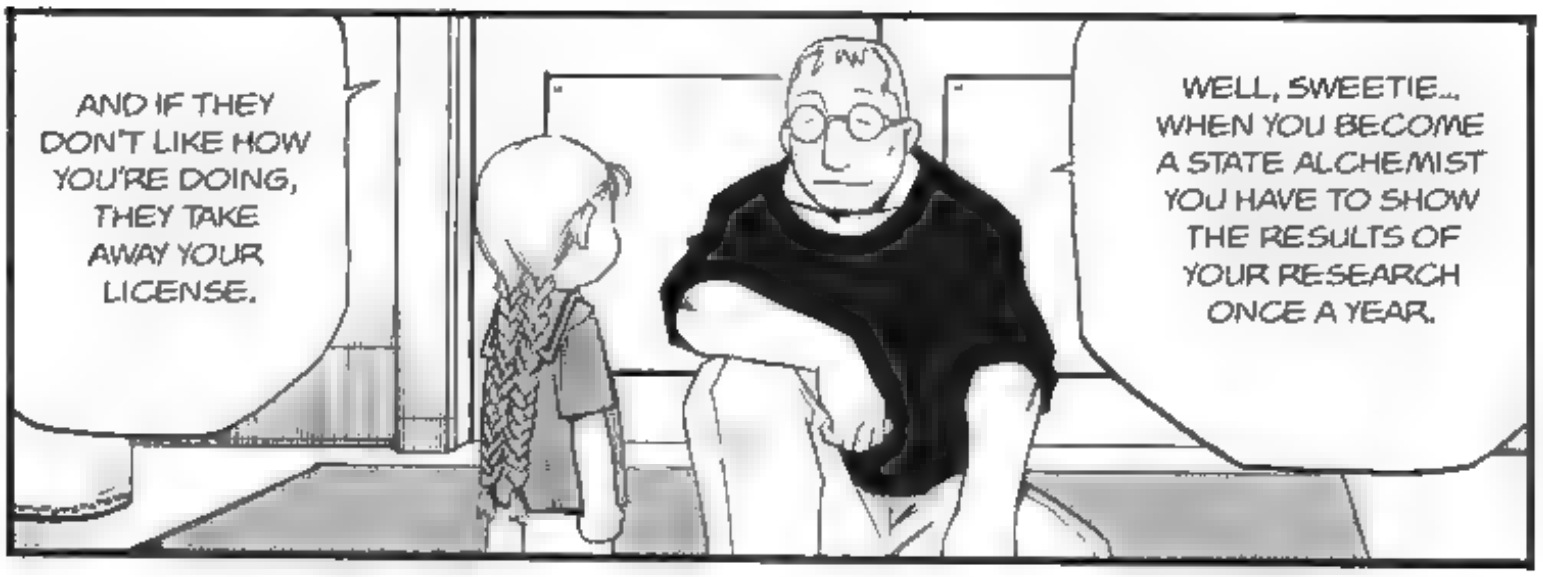
ARE YOU GONNA COME BACK?

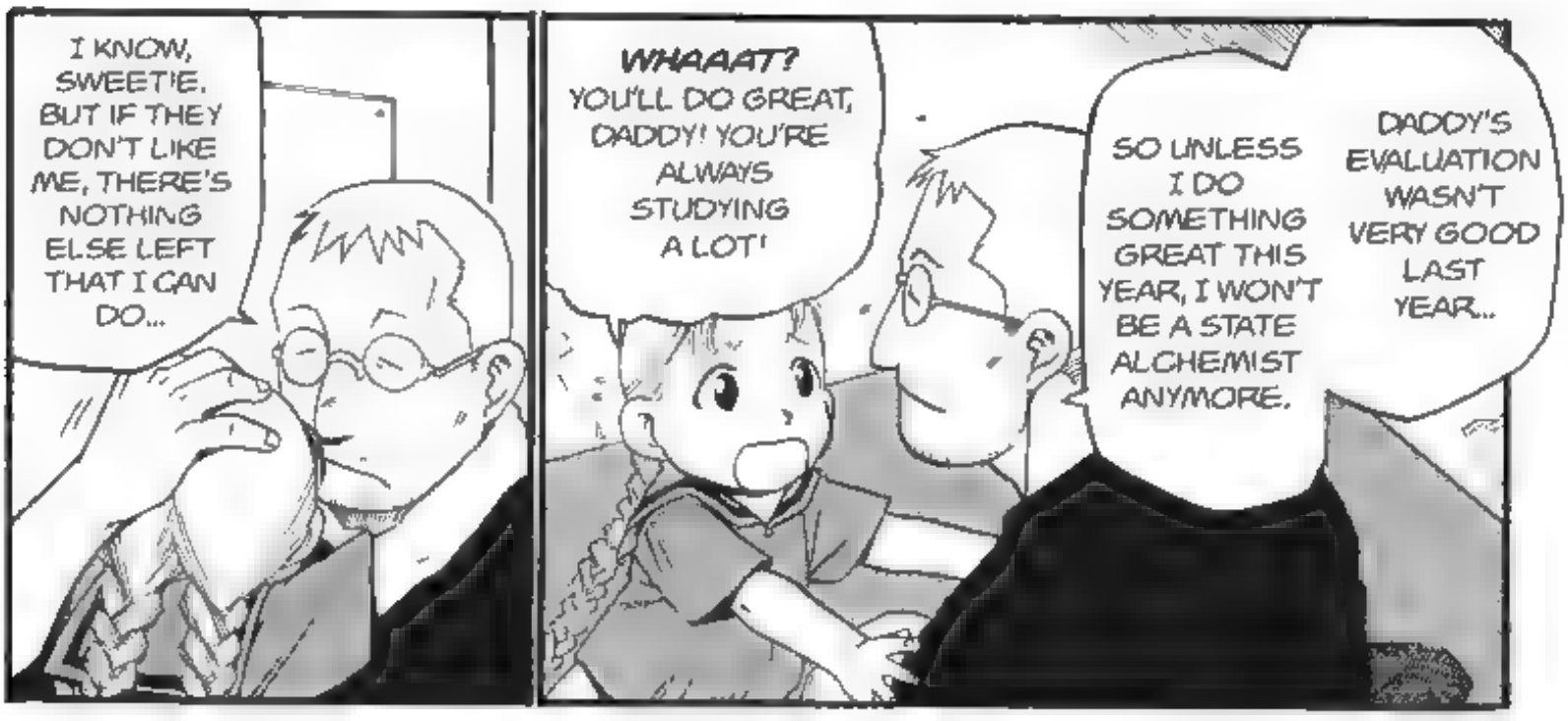
HE SAID "PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT THE ASSESSMENT DATE IS COMING UP."

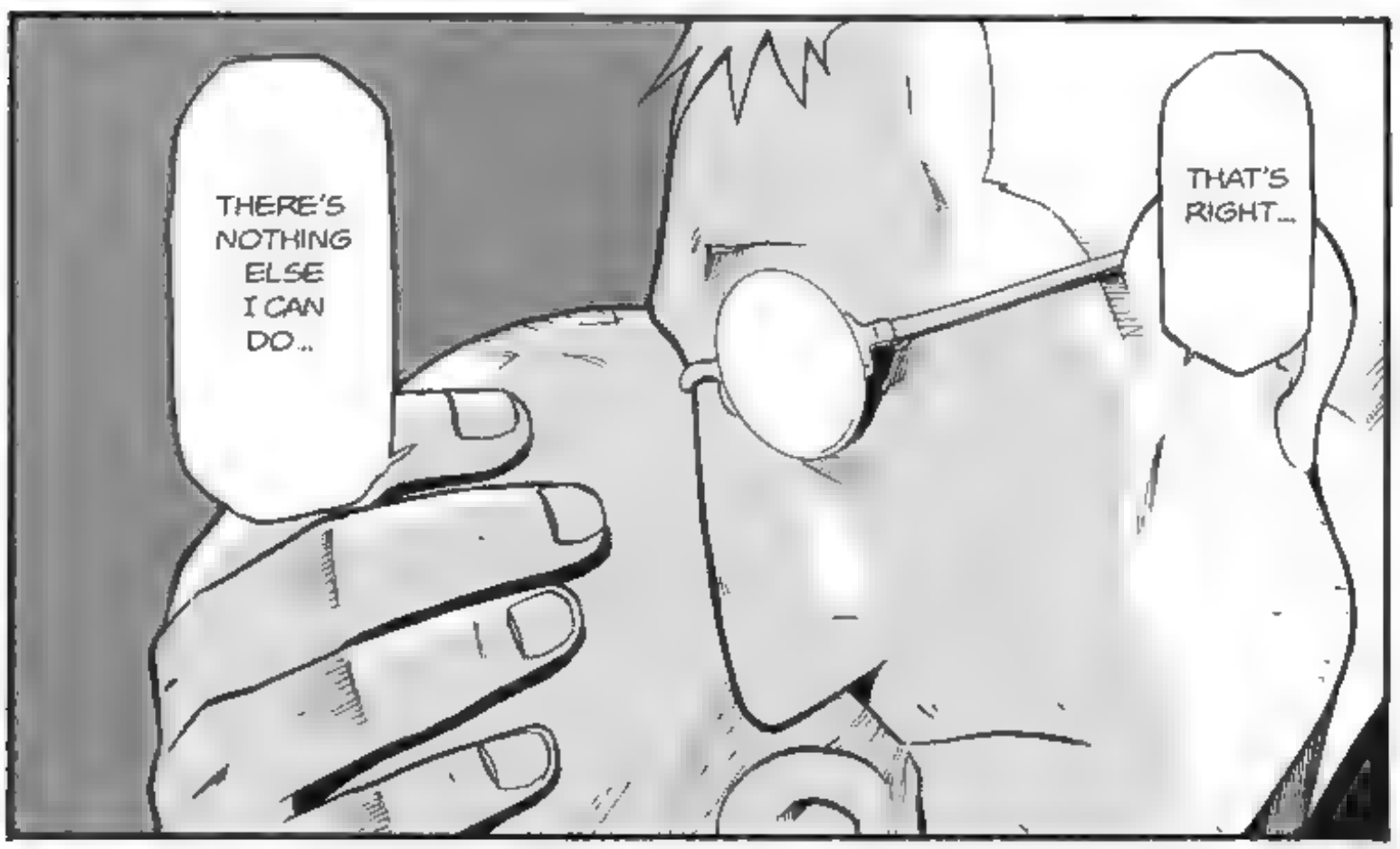
OH, MR. TUCKER, I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM THE COLONEL.

...YES, I KNOW.

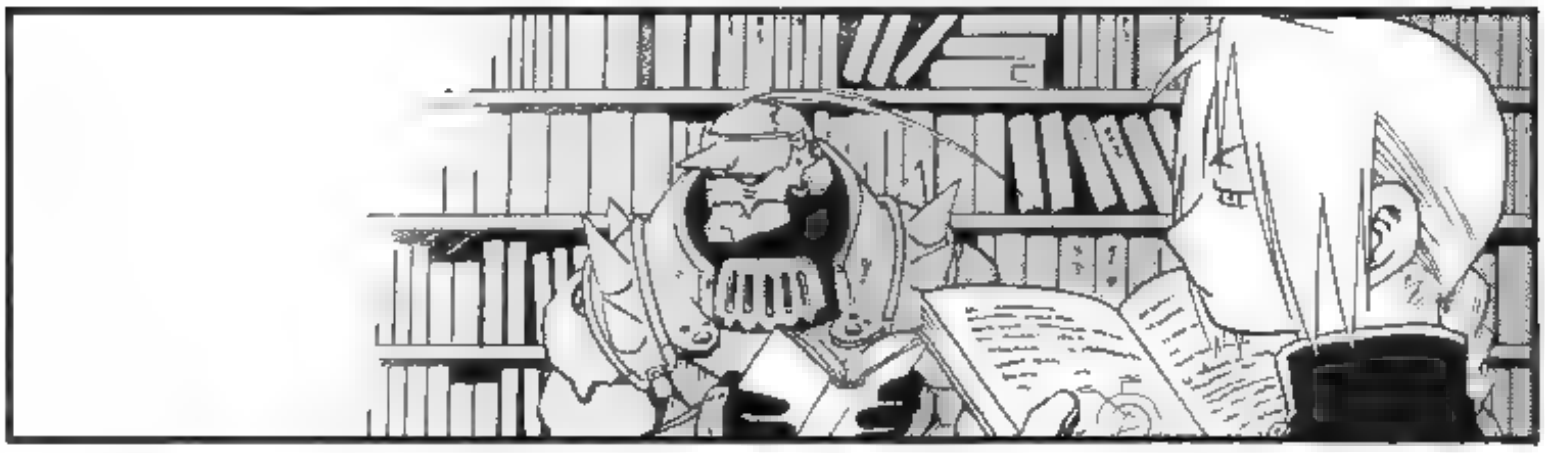
HEY DADDY, WHAT'S AN "ASSESS-MENT"?


AND IF THEY DON'T LIKE HOW YOU'RE DOING, THEY TAKE AWAY YOUR LICENSE.
WELL, SWEETIE... WHEN YOU BECOME A STATE ALCHEMIST YOU HAVE TO SHOW THE RESULTS OF YOUR RESEARCH ONCE A YEAR.


I KNOW, SWEETIE. BUT IF THEY DON'T LIKE ME, THERE'S NOTHING ELSE LEFT THAT I CAN DO...
WHAAAT?
YOU'LL DO GREAT, DADDY! YOU'RE ALWAYS STUDYING A LOT!
SO UNLESS I DO SOMETHING GREAT THIS YEAR, I WON'T BE A STATE ALCHEMIST ANYMORE.
DADDY'S EVALUATION WASN'T VERY GOOD LAST YEAR...


THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO..
THAT'S RIGHT...

HMM... SO YOUR MOM LEFT TWO YEARS AGO...
REALLY? IT MUST BE LONELY LIVING IN A BIG HOUSE LIKE THIS WITH JUST THE TWO OF YOU.
UH-HUH. DADDY SAID SHE WENT BACK TO HER PARENTS' HOUSE.
LATELY DADDY'S ALWAYS IN HIS LABORATORY WITH THE DOOR LOCKED... SO IT'S A LITTLE LONELY.
DADDY'S NICE TO ME, AND I HAVE ALEXANDER TOO!
NO, IT'S NOT!
BUT..



YOU'RE RIGHT. I GUESS I'LL GO WORK OUT A LITTLE IN THE YARD.
EXERCISE IS THE BEST CURE FOR SHOULDER CRAMPS, BIG BROTHER.
ALL THIS READING IS MAKING MY SHOULDERS CRAMP UP. DAY AFTER DAY...
KREK
KREK
AHH, MAN...

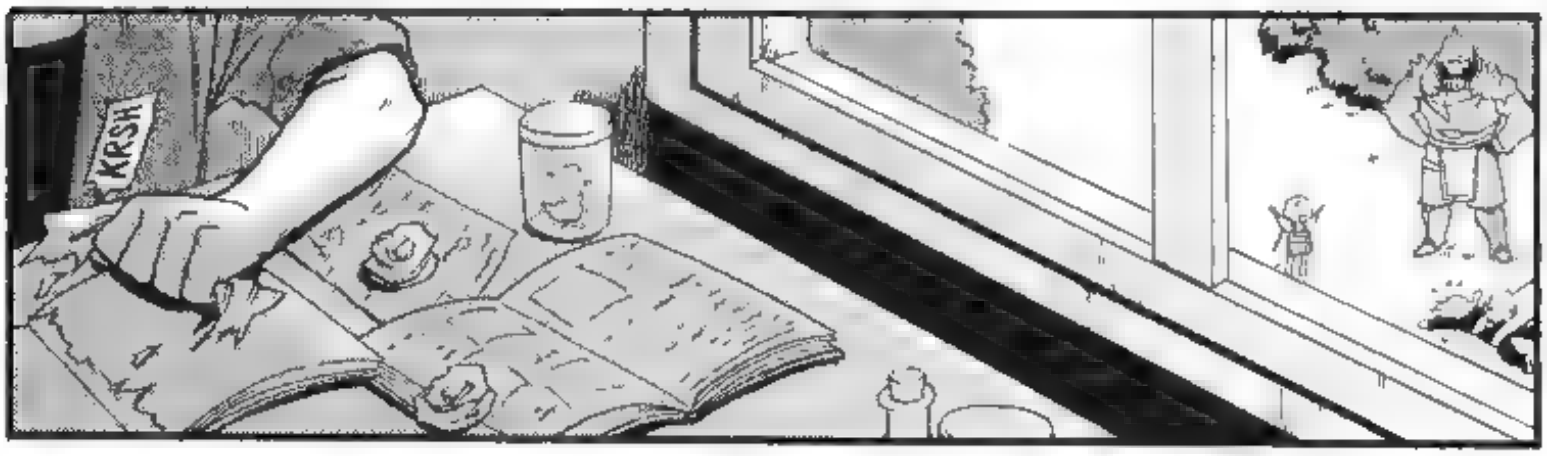
SNAP!
HEY, DOG! I'LL PLAY WITH YOU FOR EXERCISE!

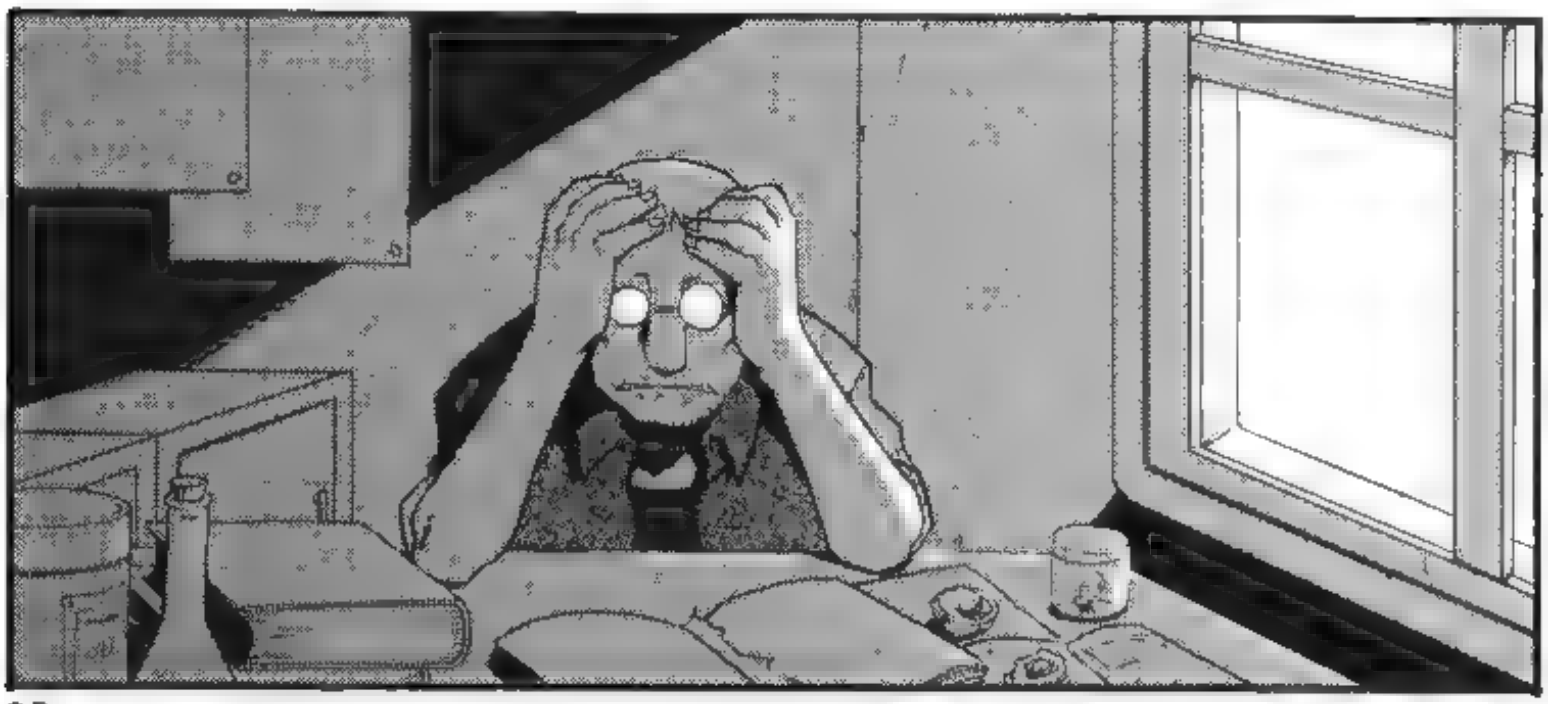
COME ON, NINA. YOU TOO.

YAAAH!
BOW
WOO

hee
hee

HA
HA
AHA
HAHA


KRSH



GRM RM RMB

CREEK

HELLO..

MR. TUCKER? IT'S US AGAIN.

DING DING

IT'S GONNA RAIN FOR SURE TODAY.

GRM RM RMB

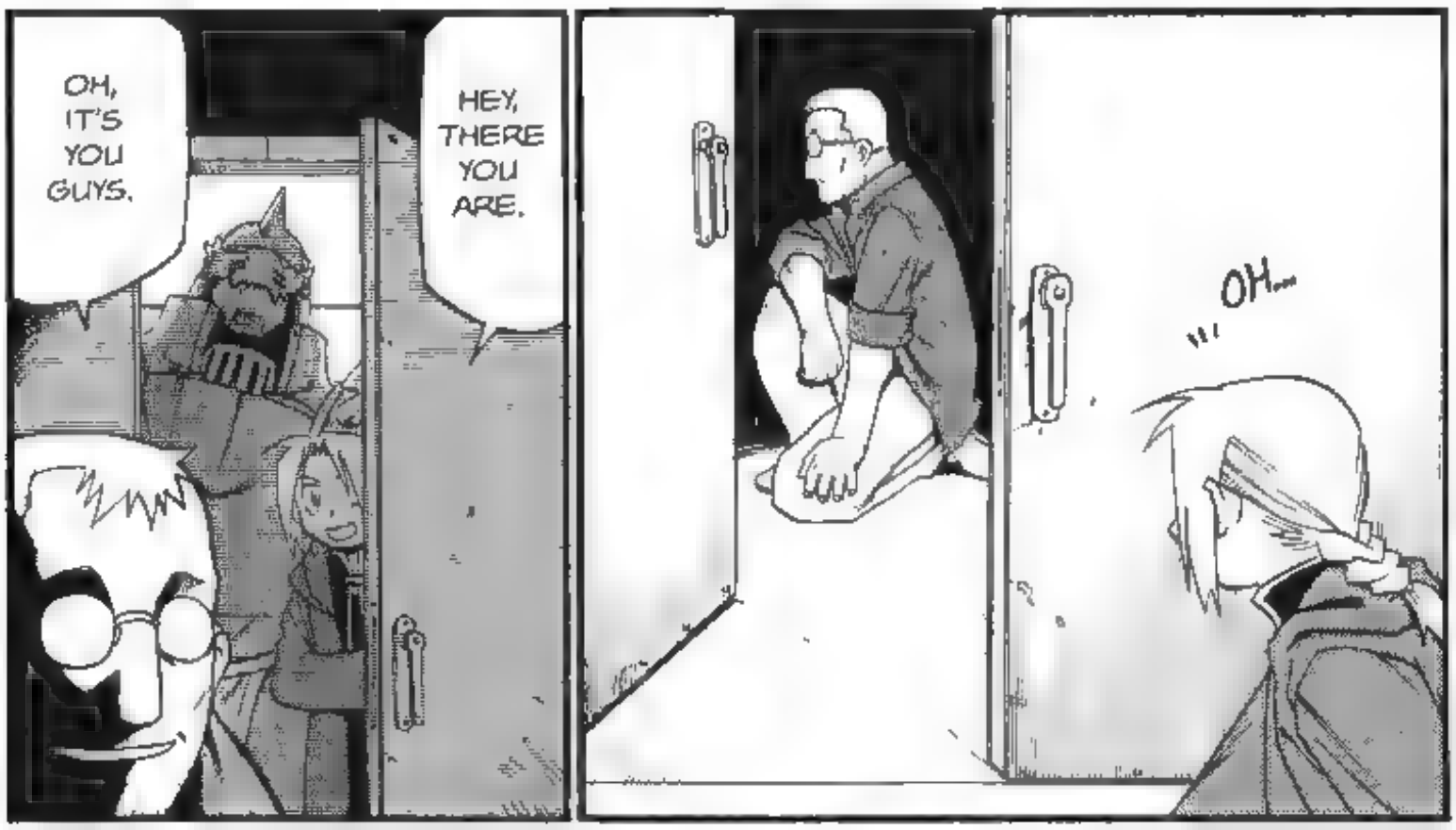
HUH ?

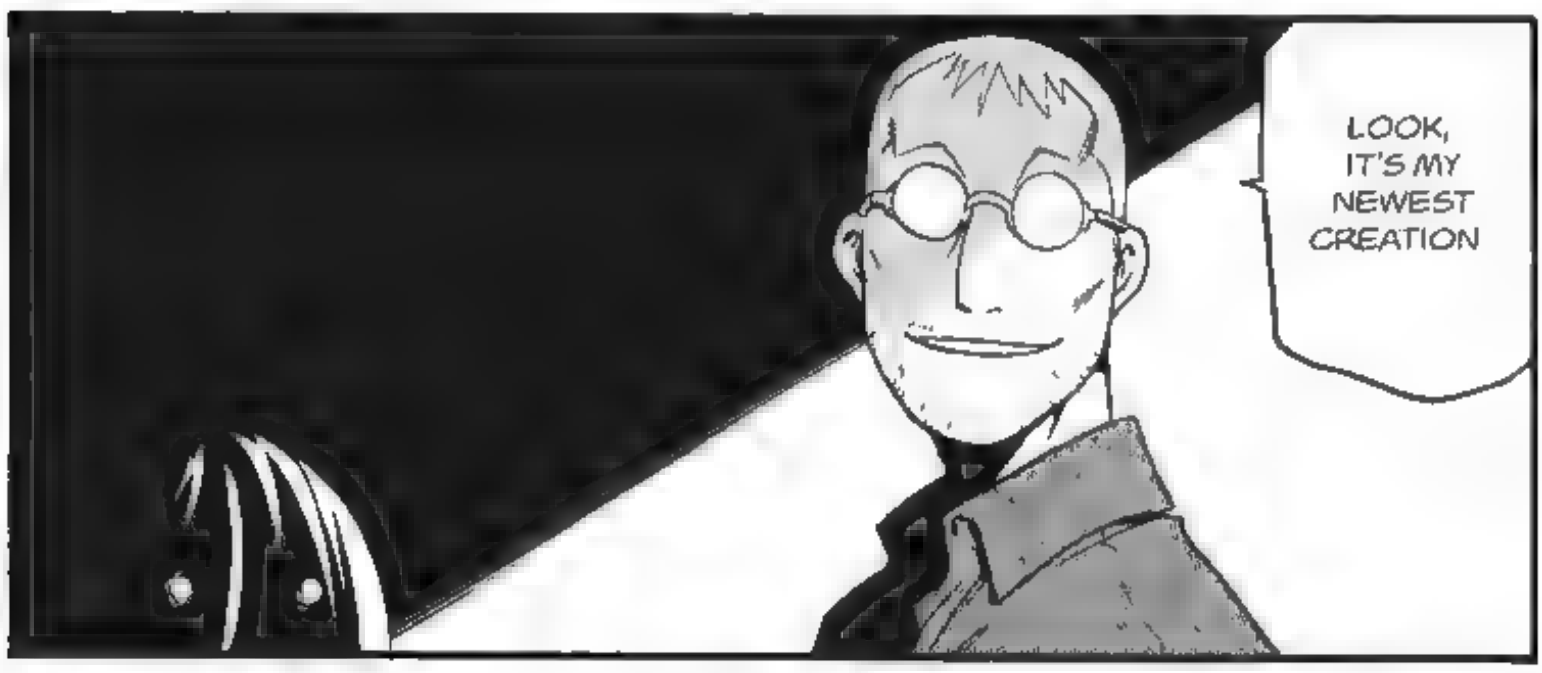
HUSH...

MR. TUCKER ?

MAYBE THEY'RE NOT HOME.

NINA
?
MR. TUCKER
?


OH, IT'S YOU GUYS.
HEY, THERE YOU ARE.
OH...


LOOK, IT'S MY NEWEST CREATION

IT'S A CHIMERA THAT TALKS LIKE A HUMAN.

ED..
WARD ?

THIS PERSON IS EDWARD. UNDER-STAND?
WATCH THIS.

UH-HUH. I'M GLAD THAT I MADE IT IN TIME FOR THE ASSESS-MENT.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. IT REALLY TALKS...

VEH.

REE

GOOD ?

THAT'S RIGHT. VERY GOOD.

ED-WARD.

ED-WARD.

AND WHEN THE GRANT MONEY KICKS IN, I WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT RESEARCH COSTS FOR A WHILE.'

THIS JUST SAVED MY NECK.

ED..

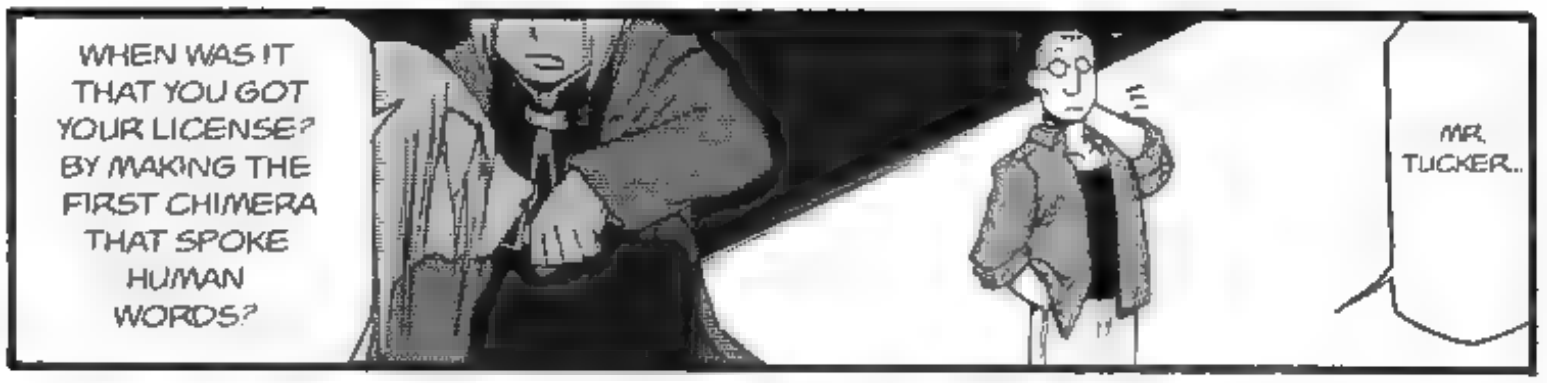
ED-WARD.

WARD

BRUH..

BIG

THER


WHEN WAS IT THAT YOU GOT YOUR LICENSE? BY MAKING THE FIRST CHIMERA THAT SPOKE HUMAN WORDS?
MR. TUCKER..

UH... THAT WAS TWO YEARS AGO.

AND WHEN DID YOUR WIFE LEAVE?

...THAT WAS TWO YEARS AGO TOO.

CAN I ASK YOU ONE MORE QUESTION ?

WHAT HAPPENED TO NINA AND ALEXANDER ?

I HATE PER-CEPTIVE BRATS LIKE YOU...

BMP

GRAB

SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED !

BIG BROTHER !

THIS TIME YOU MADE A CHIMERA OUT OF YOUR OWN DAUGHTER AND A DOG!

TWO YEARS AGO IT WAS YOUR WIFE !!

YOU SCUM..

HOW COULD YOU !!?

...!

NNH..

WHY ARE YOU SO MAD?

ISN'T THAT RIGHT? BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH YOU CAN DO BY EXPERIMENTING ON ANIMALS.

HUMANS ARE ***SO MUCH*** BETTER. ***AM I RIGHT?***

THE PROGRESS OF MEDICINE... THE PROGRESS OF HUMAN KNOWLEDGE... IS THE ***RESULT*** OF EXPERIMENTING ON HUMANS. SOMEONE HAS TO DO IT. AS A SCIENTIST...

YOU SHOULD BE THE FIRST TO..

SHUT UP! JUST SHUT UP!

DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO GET AWAY WITH THIS? PLAYING AROUND WITH PEOPLE'S ***LIVES?!***

YOU'RE THE FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST! YOU MEAN LIKE YOUR BROTHER'S LIFE...AND YOUR ARM?

PEOPLE'S LIVES?

HA HA! YES, PEOPLE'S LIVES!

GRRK

THAT'S ALSO THE RESULT OF "PLAYING AROUND WITH PEOPLE'S LIVES," YES?

NHH... HA HA HA HA...

YOU AND I ARE JUST THE SAME!

WAM

THAT'S NOT TRUE !

YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT THAN I AM! YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD DO IT, SO YOU DID!

THAT'S NOT TRUE !

WE ALCHEMISTS...

SLAM

KRAK

THAT'S NOT TRUE !

WHAM

AGH !

YOU COULDN'T HELP BUT TRY IT EVEN IF IT WAS FORBIDDEN! IN FACT, BECAUSE IT'S FORBIDDEN!

I'D NEVER... !

KRK

WOULD NEVER DO THAT...

WE'D NEVER...

WAM

EDWARD.

ANY MORE AND YOU'LL KILL HIM.

GRIP

HA HA..

PRETTY WORDS DON'T GET ANYTHING DONE..

SLUMP

IF YOU SAY ONE MORE WORD, THIS TIME I'LL BE THE ONE TO SNAP.

MR. TUCKER.

ghh...

WE DON'T HAVE THE SKILL RIGHT NOW TO TURN YOU BACK TO NORMAL.

I'M SORRY.

NINA...

I'M SO SORRY.

I'M SORRY.

SHAAAAA

WAN-NA PLAY

WAN-NA PLAY

WAN-NA PLAY

"THE DEVIL...?"

TO PUT IT BLUNTLY, ***ALL*** STATE ALCHEMISTS ARE NOTHING BUT THE MILITARY'S HUMAN WEAPONS.

WE DO WHAT THEY WANT, WE OBEY ORDERS, AND WE DON'T COMPLAIN IF OUR HANDS GET DIRTY IN THE PROCESS.

IF THERE EVER TRULY WAS "THE WORK OF THE DEVIL," THEN THIS WAS IT.

MY POINT BEING THAT WHEN IT COMES TO MESSING WITH HUMAN LIVES, TUCKER'S ACTIONS AREN'T SO DIFFERENT FROM OUR OWN.

THAT'S THE LOGIC OF AN ADULT, SIR.

EVEN THOUGH EDWARD ACTS OLDER THAN HIS YEARS, HE'S STILL A CHILD.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, FULL-METAL?

KLMP

YES. BUT THE PATH THAT HE'S CHOSEN WILL NO DOUBT LEAD TO HARDSHIPS GREATER THAN HE FACED TODAY.

HE HAS TO MOVE FORWARD... EVEN IF IT MEANS FORCING HIMSELF TO UNDER-STAND.

BE QUIET.

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON STAYING DEPRESSED?

CAN YOU AFFORD TO BE HELD BACK BY SOME-THING SO SMALL?

EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE CALL YOU A "DOG OF THE MILITARY" AND A "DEVIL," IT WAS ***YOU*** WHO CHOSE TO KEEP STUDYING ALCHEMY. YOU ***CHOSE*** TO JOIN THE MILITARY, WHEN YOU COULD HAVE LIVED THE REST OF YOUR LIFE AS BEST YOU CAN WITH THE BODY YOU HAVE.

BUT WE'RE NOT DEVILS OR GODS.

YOU'RE RIGHT. PEOPLE MAY CALL US DOGS OR DEVILS, BUT AL AND I WILL GET OUR ORIGINAL BODIES BACK.

GRIP

"SOME-THING SO SMALL"...?

WE'RE HUMANS.

WE CAN'T EVEN SAVE ONE LITTLE GIRL.

WE'RE JUST PATHETIC HUMAN BEINGS...

YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.

GO HOME AND REST.

ARE YOU HERE TO SEE MR. TUCKER?

OH...

SPLASH

SHAAAAA

IF YOU HAVE SOME BUSI-NESS...

UNAU-THORIZED INDIVIDUALS AREN'T ALLOWED PAST THIS POINT.

KRIK

KRAK

I'M GOING THROUGH.

HUH?

WHY DOESN'T ANYBODY UNDER-STAND ?

GRM RM RMB

KRAKABOOM

WHY, NINA... ?

ARE YOU SHOU TUCKER ?

KRAKA

!

TMP

WHO ARE YOU ?

THERE WERE GUARDS OUT-SIDE...

HOW DID YOU GET IN!?

TMP TMP TMP

YOU'RE... YOU'RE NOT WITH THE ARMY.

WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?

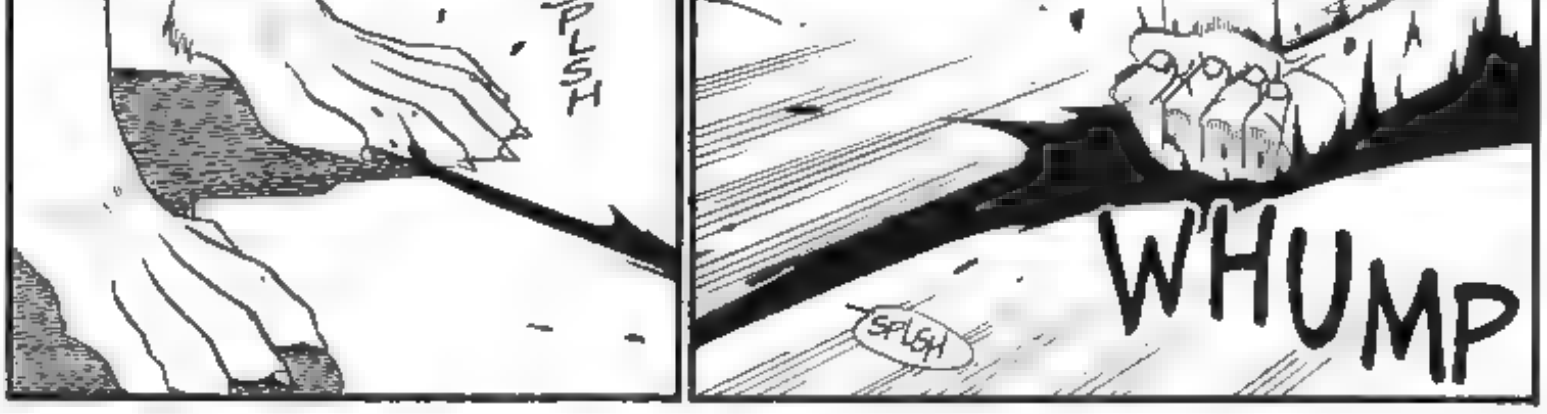
...MUST DIE !

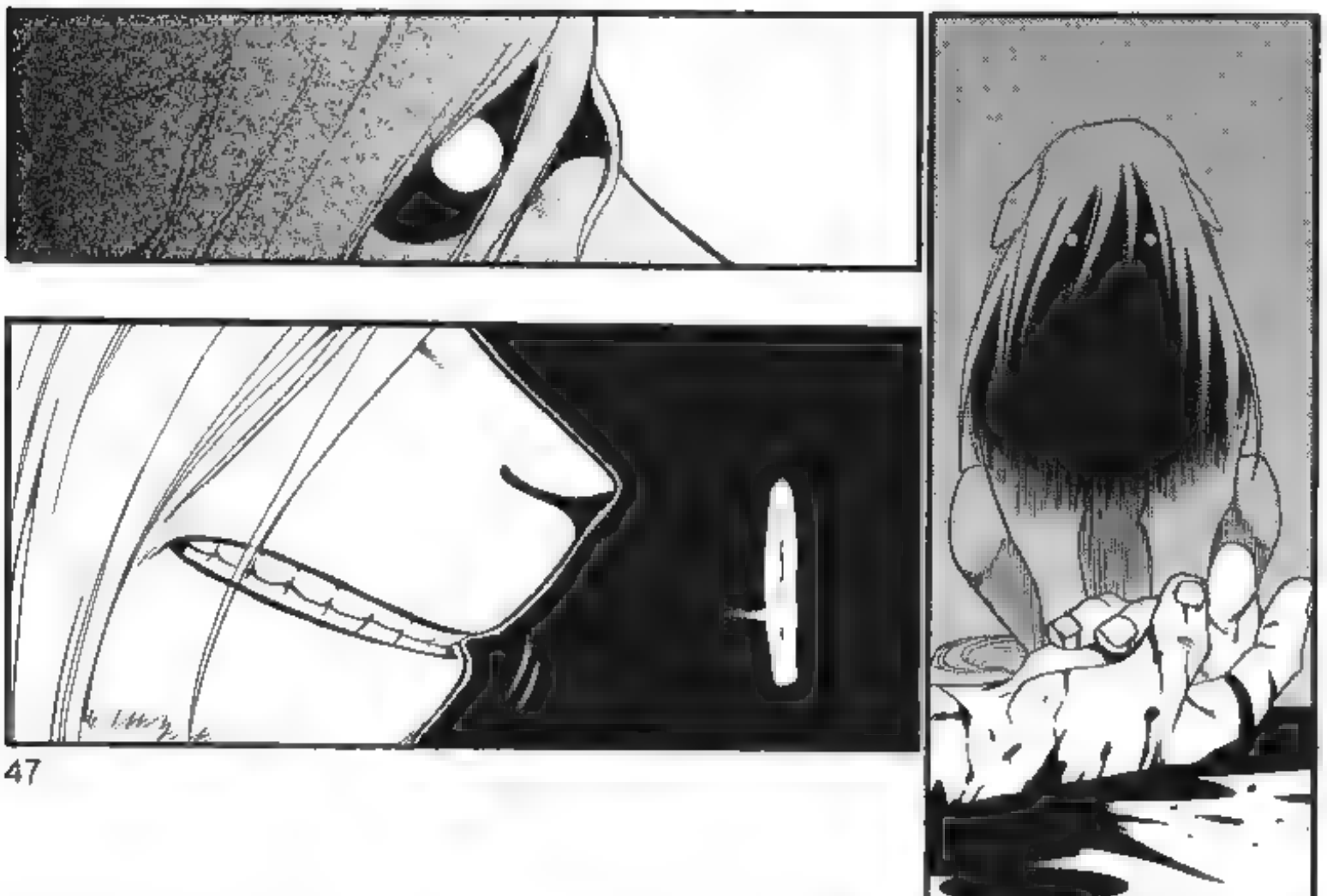
KRAK

KRIK

ALCHEM-ISTS WHO HAVE STRAYED FROM THE PATH OF GOD...

prp


SPLASH
WHUMP
SPLASH



DAD-DY

DA-DA

DAD-DY

DAD-DY

DAD-DY

NOW THAT HE'S DONE THIS TO YOU, THERE'S NO WAY TO CHANGE YOU BACK TO NORMAL.

..HOW AW-FUL.

AT THE VERY LEAST, GO IN PEACE.

SHAAAAA

TWO SOULS HAVE NOW RETURNED TO YOUR SIDE.

PLEASE TAKE PITY ON THEM... AND GRANT THEM FORGIVENESS AND PEACE IN YOUR LOVING EMBRACE.

MY LORD.

LORD GOD, WHO CREATED EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD...

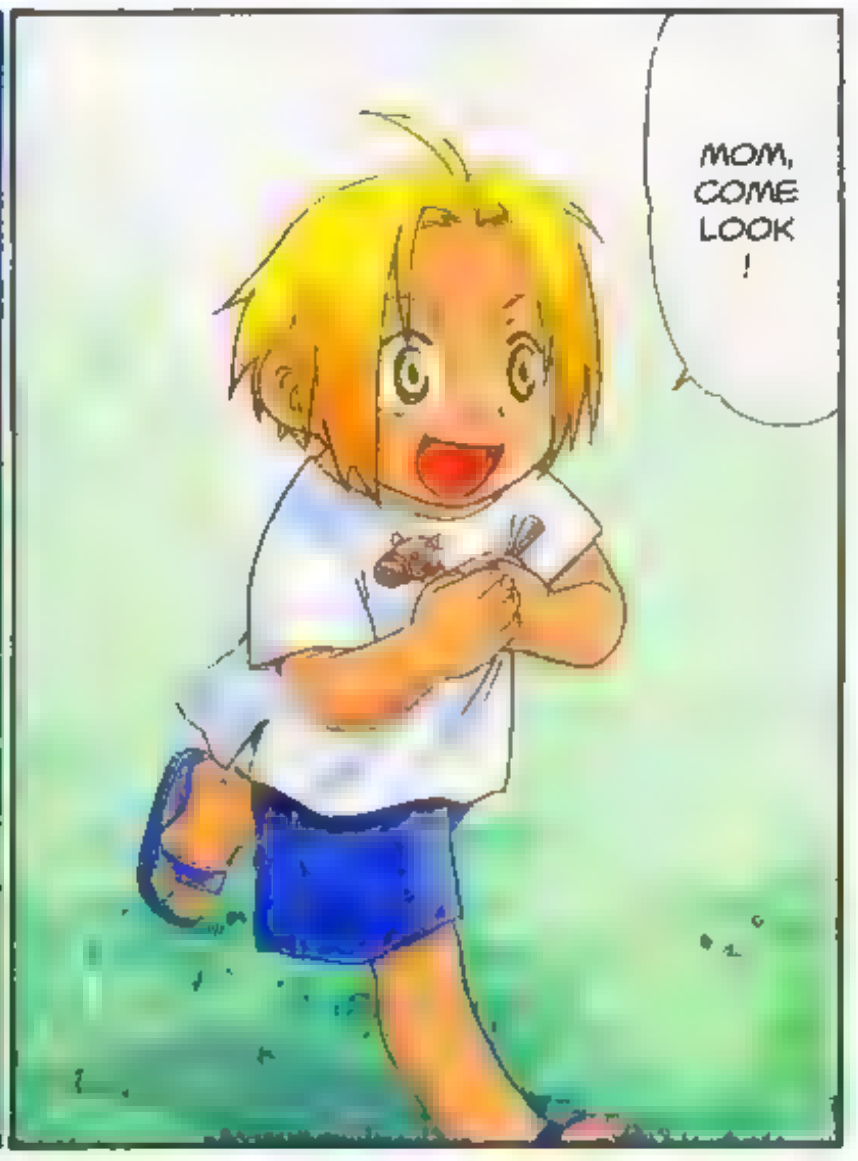
SHAAA
AAAAA

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

Chapter 6:
The Right Hand of Destruction

MOM
!
MOM
!

WHAT
IS IT,
EDWARD
?


MOM,
COME
LOOK
!

IT'S A PRESENT!

HEE HEE...

Y-YOU DID? I GUESS YOU DO TAKE AFTER YOUR FATHER!

I TRANS-MUTED IT! I PUT IT TOGETHER WITH ALCHEMY!

WHERE DID YOU GET THIS?

OH, FOR ME?

BUT IT'S TOO BAD...

BEING ABLE TO CREATE SOMETHING SO WONDERFUL...

THANK YOU, EDWARD. YOU REALLY ARE SPECIAL.

hee hee

...YOU COULDN'T PUT ME BACK TOGETHER TOO.

HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF

IT HURTS...

HUF

HUF

SHAAAAA

...

spin

URK

EDWARD!

UH... UM...

I WANTED TO KNOW... WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO TUCKER AND NINA?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE SO EARLY?

OH... FIRST LIEU-TENANT HAWK-EYE.

TUCKER WAS SCHEDULED TO HAVE HIS LICENSE REVOKED AND THEN TAKEN TO CENTRAL TO BE PUT ON TRIAL...

...BUT THEY BOTH DIED.

I DON'T KNOW. I'M ON MY WAY TO THE LOCATION RIGHT NOW.

BY WHO !!?

WHAT... WHY...?

OR TO PUT IT MORE ACCURATELY, THEY WERE KILLED.

YOU GUYS WOULD HAVE FOUND OUT EVENTUALLY, EVEN IF WE TRIED TO HIDE IT, SO I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU NOW.

WHY NOT !!?

NO.

I'M COMING TOO!

IT'S BETTER THAT YOU DON'T SEE.

WE CAME TO GET TUCKER *ALIVE*...

HEY, HEY, COLONEL MUSTANG.

ARE YOU TELLING US TO PUT THIS CORPSE ON TRIAL?

MAN, WE DIDN'T COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE FROM CENTRAL CITY TO DO AN AUTOPSY.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HUGHES... YOU DON'T NEED TO REMIND US OF OUR MISTAKE.

PLEASE JUST TAKE A LOOK.

EWW... JUST AS I THOUGHT.

HMM... IF THIS GUY REALLY USED HIS OWN WIFE AS AN EXPERI-MENT...

IT MUST HAVE BEEN DIVINE JUSTICE.

DID THE GUARDS OUTSIDE DIE THE SAME WAY?

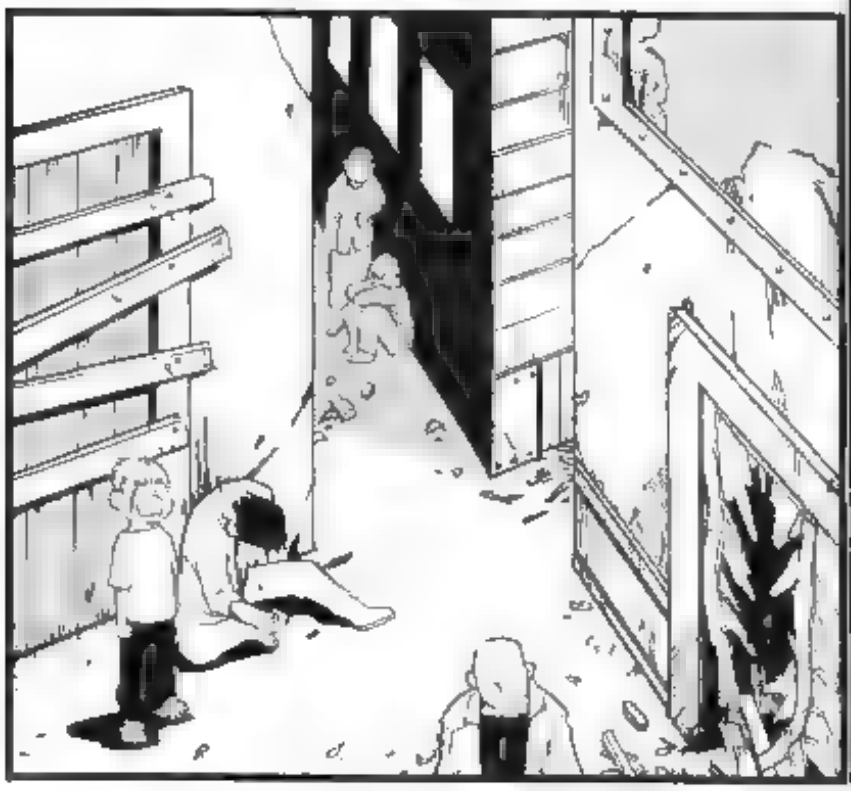
THAT'S RIGHT.

THEY WERE IN PIECES... OR GETTING THAT WAY... AS IF THEY WERE BLOWN APART FROM THE INSIDE.

IT'S HIM.

ARE YOU THINKING WHAT I'M THINKING, MAJOR ARM-STRONG?

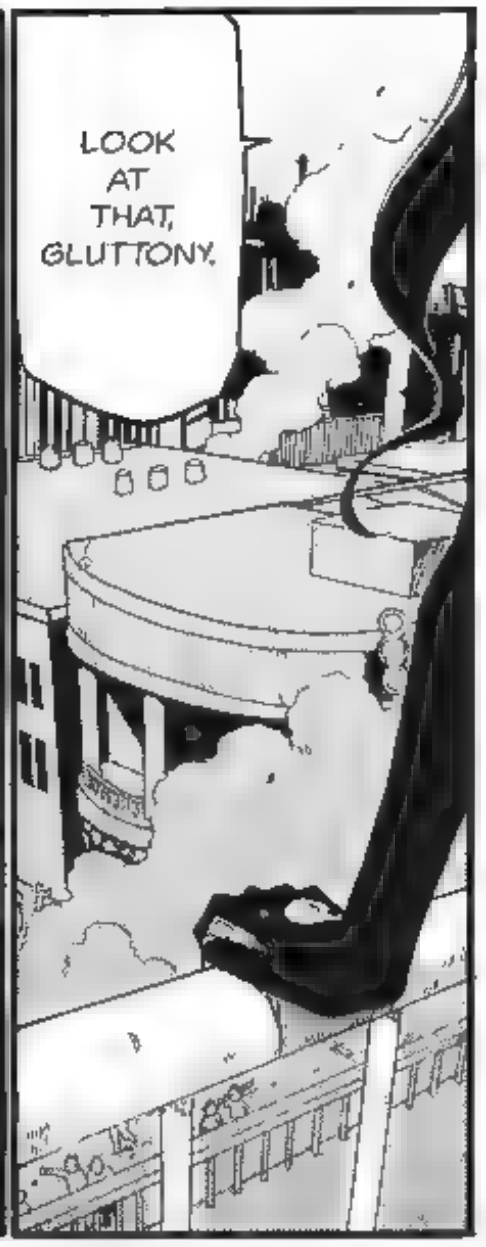
YES, THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.



G W O O O O O O

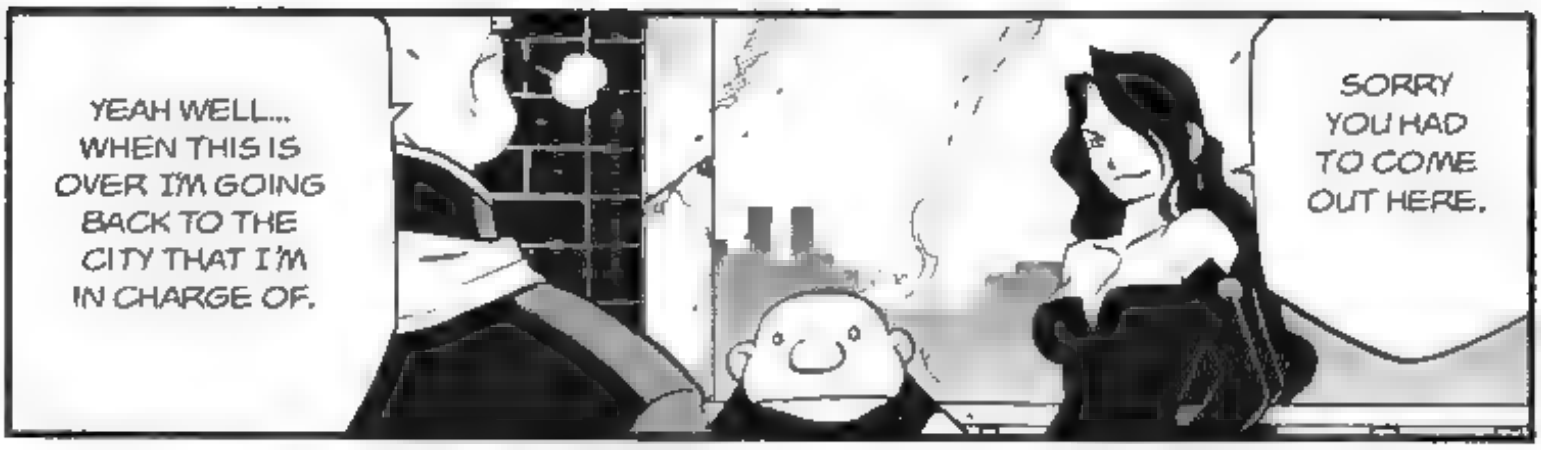
RRRAAAA

HUMANS ARE SUCH FOOLS.
FOOLS FOOLS.


LOOK AT THAT, GLUTTONY.

QUITE RIGHT.

WELL, WELL, "YOUR HOLINESS."
HOLY HOLY.
TMP
BUT WHEN THINGS WORK OUT LIKE YOU PLAN THEM, THAT FOOLISH QUALITY CAN BE SO NICE.


YEAH WELL... WHEN THIS IS OVER I'M GOING BACK TO THE CITY THAT I'M IN CHARGE OF.
SORRY YOU HAD TO COME OUT HERE.

HEH HEH... YES...
BUT AS A RESULT OUR WORK WILL BE FINISHED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, SO HE WAS ACTUALLY A BIG HELP.
REALLY...I WAS A LITTLE BIT WORRIED WHEN THAT FULLMETAL BOY MESSED UP OUR PLANS...

BLOOD-SHED BEGETS BLOOD-SHED. HATRED BEGETS HATRED.

THE RAGE AND EMOTION SINKS INTO THE LAND AND STAINS IT WITH THE CREST OF BLOOD.

ALL IT TOOK WAS FOR YOU TO SPREAD SOME PROPAGANDA AMONG MY "FOLLOWERS," TO GET THEM STARTED, AND ***THIS*** IS THE RESULT.

HUMANS REALLY ARE SIMPLE CREATURES.

THAT'S WHY WE CAN DO ANYTHING TO THEM, RIGHT?

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES THEY REPEAT THEM-SELVES, THEY NEVER LEARN.

THESE SAD FOOLS...

YES, I GUESS THEY'LL DIE.

WILL A LOT OF PEOPLE DIE AGAIN?

HOW LONG DO YOU PLAN ON USING THAT VOICE AND THAT BODY? IT'S MAKING ME SICK.

BY THE WAY, ENVY...

CAN I EAT ALL THE ONES THAT DIE?

NO, YOU CAN'T EAT THEM.

KZAP KZAP

COME ON, I'M JUST SETTING THE MOOD, THAT'S ALL.

KZIP ZAP

PZZP

BUT IF I'M GOING TO CHANGE SHAPE ANYWAY.. WHY SHOULD I BE A CRUSTY OLD GEEZER..

ZAP

KZIP

BASH

OOM

. WHEN I CAN BE YOUNG AND CUTE?

ARE YOU TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT, LUST?

AHA HA HA HA

EVEN THOUGH ON THE *INSIDE* YOU'RE THE MOST RUTHLESS OF ALL OF US!

Y- YOU'RE A MONSTER... !

WHAT IN GOD'S NAME *ARE* YOU?!!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE ?

HIS HOLI- NESS...

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE *REAL* FATHER COR- NELLO ?

CAN I EAT HIM?

HE CALLED ME A MONSTER. I AM *SO* INSULTED.

...WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

GULP

TUCKER.. OH YES, THE "SEWING-LIFE ALCHEMIST."

FRIFP

RRIPP

SMACK

CRUNCH

I HEARD THAT SOMEONE KILLED SHOU TUCKER FROM EAST CITY.

BY THE WAY...

..IT'S THAT GUY FROM BEFORE AGAIN.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT TUCKER. BUT THE KILLER..

CRUNCH

KRAK

SNAP

GULP

GULP

WHO CARES? HE WAS JUST A MINOR ALCHE-MIST, ANYWAY.

HE'S OUR HUMAN SACRIFICE.

THE FULL-METAL ALCHEMIST...

IT MAKES ME MAD THAT HE GOT IN THE WAY OF OUR WORK, BUT WE CAN'T ALLOW HIM TO DIE

EAST CITY IS WHERE THE FLAME COLONEL IS, RIGHT?

UH-HUH.

APPARENTLY THE FULL-METAL RUNT IS THERE TOO.

WIPE WIPE

ALL RIGHT... WE'VE PRETTY MUCH FINISHED WITH THIS TOWN, SO I GUESS WE'LL GO TAKE A LOOK.

ABOUT THIS MAN...I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS OR WHERE HE'S FROM, BUT WE CAN'T ALLOW HIM TO INTERFERE WITH THE PLAN.

WIPE YOUR MOUTH AFTER YOU EAT.

LUST! THAT WAS *TASTY!*

THIS KILLER OF OURS...

WHAT WAS HIS NAME?

NOT ONLY IS HIS BACKGROUND A MYSTERY, BUT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT KIND OF WEAPON HE USES OR WHAT HIS INTENTIONS ARE. IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S EVERYWHERE.

THE ONLY INFORMATION WE'VE RECEIVED ABOUT HIM IS THAT HE HAS A LARGE X-SHAPED SCAR ON HIS FOREHEAD.

"SCAR"?

WE DON'T KNOW HIS NAME, SO THAT'S WHAT WE CALL HIM.

YES, WE'VE HEARD THE RUMORS OUT HERE IN THE EAST AS WELL.

IN THE COUNTRY HE'S KILLED A TOTAL OF TEN.

THIS YEAR ALONE HE'S KILLED FIVE ALCHEMISTS IN CENTRAL.

BRIGADIER GENERAL GRAND, THE "IRON-BLOODED ALCHEMIST"? HE'S A MILITARY MARTIAL ARTS EXPERT!

JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME... I HEARD THAT HE EVEN KILLED OLD MAN GRAND.

LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE. DOUBLE THE SECURITY STAFF AND LAY LOW FOR AWHILE.

I'M ASKING YOU THIS AS A FRIEND.

IT MIGHT SOUND CRAZY, BUT BELIEVE IT OR NOT, A GUY THIS TOUGH IS ROAMING THE CITY.

OH NO...

WITH WHAT HAPPENED TO TUCKER, YOU REALLY CAN'T LET DOWN YOUR GUARD..

THE ONLY WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE OUT IN THESE PARTS ARE TUCKER AND YOU, RIGHT?

Oh

COL-ONEL.

ON THE DOUBLE !

YOU! CONFIRM WHETHER THE ELRIC BROTHERS ARE STILL AT THEIR LODGINGS.

HEY! WHAT IS IT?

HUH ?

ALL SPARE HANDS REPORT TO THE MAIN STREET AREA !!

BRING THE CAR AROUND !

AT A TIME LIKE THIS.. !

I SPOKE TO THEM AS I WAS LEAVING H.Q.

THEY WERE WALKING DOWN THE MAIN STREET.

BIG BROTH-ER...?

HUH? OH...

MY HEAD IS JUST SO FULL THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK RIGHT NOW.

SINCE LAST NIGHT I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT THIS ALCHEMY THAT WE TRUST IN REALLY IS...

"ALCHEMY IS THE RECON-STRUCTION OF MATTER IN NEW FORMS BASED ON THE KNOWLEDGE OF NATURAL LAWS."

AND THAT'S WHY I'M WONDERING WHAT I CAN DO ABOUT SOMETHING THAT NOBODY CAN FIX.

"ACCEPT THE FLOW OF THE WORLD."

"DEATH, TOO, IS A PART OF THAT FLOW."

"THIS WORLD FLOWS BY OBEYING THESE LAWS."

OUR TEACHER REALLY BEAT THAT INTO US.

BUT I DIDN'T. THAT'S WHY MOM...

I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT SHE MEANT.

I HAVEN'T GROWN UP AT ALL SINCE THEN.

I'M A FOOL.

BUT ALL I KNOW IS THAT THIS RAIN ON MY FACE IS STARTING TO BUG ME...

I THOUGHT THAT THE RAIN WOULD WASH AWAY ALL MY DOUBT...

EVEN IF THAT MEANS DOING THE IMPOSSIBLE AND GOING AGAINST THE FLOW OF THE WORLD.

BUT...

I DON'T EVEN HAVE A BODY THAT CAN FEEL THE RAIN.

IT'S LONELY INSIDE HERE...

IT'S HARD.

I WANT TO GET MY OLD BODY BACK...

I WANT TO GO BACK TO BEING *HUMAN.*

EDWARD!

SPLISH SPLISH

OH! THERE THEY ARE.

ELRIC...?

OH, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!

EDWARD... ELRIC...

MR. EDWARD ELRIC!!

YOU'RE TO RETURN TO HEAD-QUARTERS IMMEDIATELY.

WHAT IS IT? DO YOU NEED ME FOR SOME-THING?

THERE'S A KILLER ON THE LOOSE IN THIS AREA...

B-BMP

EDWARD ELRIC...

THE FULL-METAL ALCHEMIST !!

NO !!

FWP

!!

THAT SCAR !

SK

SH

SLAM

SPLSH

KRAK

EVERYTHING FROM THE CORE OF MY BODY SAYS TO RUN AWAY BUT MY LEGS WON'T MOVE...!

THIS IS BAD! BAD! BAD!!

...WHO IS THIS GUY?

OH MY GOD!

WHAT THE-?!

XII

TIK

I'M GONNA DIE!!

OH NO...

UNH... AL!

RUN!

WSH

GONG

GASP

YOU WON'T GET AWAY!

I DON'T DESERVE TO *DIE!*

ACTUALLY I'VE DONE THAT A LOT, BUT

I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING TO MAKE SOMEONE *HATE* ME...

WHAT'S *HIS* PROBLEM!?

SKRIK

ED! IN THE ALLEY!

?

DO MM

JUST WATCH!

WHAT?! HE SAW US GO IN HERE!

KRIK

OH!

NOW HE CAN'T COME AFTER US.

BAM

KLATTA KLATTA

GLARE

TP

...

KZAP

AAGGHH

D-D-D-D-D

VSH

VSH

VSH

VSSH

VSSH

VSSH

VSH

!?

KR- KR-

KR-

KR-

GAGOOM

GWOO

KABLAMM

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME...

KLATA KLATA

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

WHY ARE YOU AFTER US?

SIJF

THERE ARE THOSE WHO CREATE... AND THOSE WHO DESTROY.

...

GRIP

I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE...

SLAP

ZZT ZZT ZZT ZT ZT

KRIK

KLACK

YOU'RE NOT AFRAID...

HERE WE GO!!

VWA

VSH

WSH

WSH

...BUT YOU'RE *SLOW!*

SK

ST

HUH...?

!

...

YOU SON OF A--

GRAB

I SAID YOU'RE TOO SLOW!

GRIP

AL !!!

KLANGG

!?

HING

KAS

WHAM

OW !!

?....

AUTO-MAIL...

IT'S NO WONDER MY BODY-DISRUPTING ATTACK HAD NO EFFECT.

HUF

HUF

HUF

...DAMN IT!!

FWIP

YOU'RE A STRANGE PAIR...

THIS HAS TAKEN LONGER THAN I THOUGHT...

SLAP

AND *HIM*... I WAS PLANNING TO STRIP HIM OF HIS ARMOR BEFORE I DESTROYED HIM, BUT THERE S NOTHING INSIDE

BASHOOM

DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO FOLLOW YOUR *SCHEDULE!*

HM...YOU CREATE A TRANSMUTATION CIRCLE BY PUTTING YOUR HANDS TOGETHER... AND THEN USE THE POWER THAT FLOWS BETWEEN THEM...

DON'T BE STUPID! I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT YOU!!

NO, EDWARD...! YOU HAVE TO RUN...

KRIK

WELL THEN...

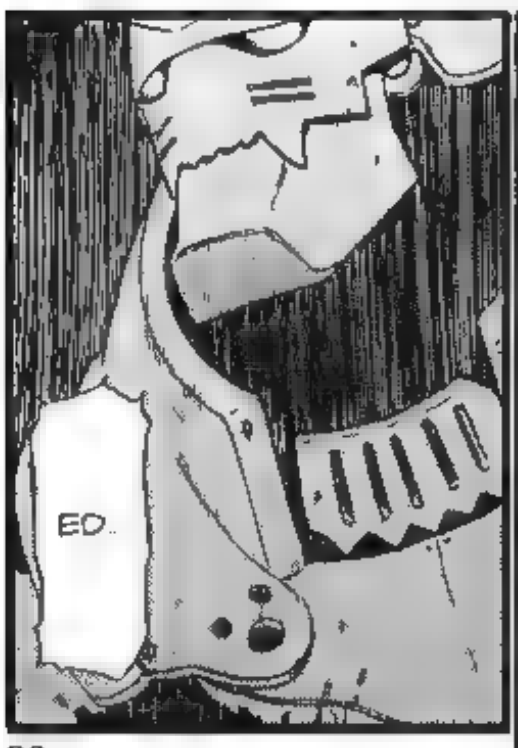
RRRAAAAAAH!

BA
MM

ALLOW ME TO DESTROY IT.
KZZT
SLISH
GRIP
I'LL START WITH YOUR ARM.

BOOM

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST


ED

EDWARD!

Chapter 7: After the Rain

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU...BUT THERE'S NO GOD THAT I FEEL LIKE PRAYING TO.

I'LL GIVE YOU A MOMENT TO PRAY.

SHAAA

KRAKOOM

MY YOUNGER BROTHER, AL... ARE YOU GOING TO KILL HIM TOO?

AM I THE ONLY ONE YOU'RE AFTER?

PROMISE YOU WON'T TOUCH MY BROTHER.

ALL RIGHT THEN, PROMISE ME.

IF ANYONE GETS IN MY WAY I WILL ELIMINATE THEM...BUT RIGHT NOW I ONLY HAVE BUSINESS WITH YOU, THE FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST.

I PROMISE.

ED...

EDWARD, WHAT ARE YOU DOING!? RUN!

KLANG,

WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?!

NO! PLEASE DON'T DO IT! DON'T KILL HIM!

GET UP! RUN! GET OUT OF THERE!

NOOOO!

KRK KRIKKSNAP

SKERK

BL AM

THAT'S ENOUGH.

COLONEL!

HE'S...

THAT WAS PRETTY CLOSE, FULL-METAL.

!

THE MURDER AT THE TUCKER ESTATE... LET ME GUESS. THAT WAS YOU TOO?

GRR

AND JUDGING FROM WHAT I'M SEEING, THAT SUSPICION JUST BECAME FACT.

THAT MAN IS SUSPECTED IN THE SERIAL KILLINGS OF STATE ALCHEMISTS.

I AM AN INSTRUMENT OF DIVINE JUDGMENT!

THIS WORLD WAS MADE PERFECT BY GOD. ALCHEMISTS CHANGE THE NATURAL INTO THE UNNATURAL... TWIST THINGS OUT OF THEIR TRUE FORM...

THEY SIN BY DEFACING GOD'S CREATION.

..DO YOU ONLY TARGET STATE ALCHEMISTS WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER ALCHEMISTS YOU COULD KILL?

MAKES SENSE. BUT THEN ***WHY***...

OH, YOU ***WILL***, EH ?

TOSS

IF YOU INSIST ON STOPPING ME, I'LL JUST ELIMINATE YOU TOO.

STAY OUT OF THIS.

COLONEL MUSTANG !

I'M THE "FLAME ALCHE-MIST," ROY MUSTANG !

THE ONE AND ONLY !

THE STATE ALCHE-MIST?

MUS-TANG...

WHAT A GLORIOUS DAY THIS IS!!

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THIS...YOU TURN FROM THE PATH OF GOD, THEN COME TO MEET JUDGMENT OF YOUR OWN FREE WILL..

KRAK

YOU KNOW THAT I'M THE FLAME ALCHEMIST, BUT YOU STILL WANT TO FIGHT ME?

YOU'RE A FOOL !!

SWAPP

AH!

COLO...

WOLF

WHOOSH

WAAGH !?

CHAK

BA BA BA BA BA-

BAM

USELESS

WHAM

OH YEAH...! HE CAN'T PUT OUT SPARKS IN THIS MOISTURE...

YOU'RE USELESS ON RAINY DAYS. PLEASE STAND BACK, COLONEL.

WHAT WAS *THAT* FOR ?!

I WILL DESTROY EVERY-ONE HERE !!

STATE ALCHE-MISTS, SYMPA-THIZERS, AND EVERY-ONE WHO TRIES TO STOP ME!

LUCKY FOR ME...YOU CAME TO FIGHT ME, BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE FLAMES.

TMP

KABAM

GO AHEAD AND TRY.

HNH... AN- OTHER ONE... !

SNK SNAP
KRK
YOU DODGED THAT...
NOT HALF BAD...
BAGUMP
MM-HMM...
GRMM RMM RMB RMB RMB RMB RMB
YOU BRAZEN INSURRECTIONARY! I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU.
YOU WANT TO DESTROY EVERYONE HERE?
WHY DON'T YOU TRY TO BEAT *ME* FIRST?!
USELESS...
DON'T MAKE ME *LAUGH*!!

KA WHAM

TADAA!

SKISH KRSH KRASH

ALEX LOUIS ARMSTRONG !!

I'M THE "STRONG ARM ALCHE-MIST"...

...SO MANY OF YOU TODAY .. ONE AFTER ANOTHER...

THIS MUST BE A GIFT FROM GOD!

BUT IT SAVES ME THE TROUBLE OF HAVING TO SEARCH YOU OUT.

THE ELEGANT ALCHEMICAL TECHNIQUE PASSED DOWN THROUGH THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY FOR GENERATIONS!

HWOOOO

VFF

HMH HMH.. SO YOU WON'T BACK DOWN, EH?

SPIN

SPIN

THEN AS A SIGN OF RESPECT FOR YOUR COURAGE, I'LL SHOW YOU ***THIS!***

KZZAP

BOM

DOOOM!

TOOM

WM

SLAM

AND AGAIN !

G-G-G-G-G-G-G

!!

D-D-DMM

SHABAK

YOU..

MRSH

WHAT DE-STROYS, CAN ALSO CREATE!

AND WHAT CREATES, CAN ALSO DE-STROY!

DESTRUC-TION AND CREATION ARE TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN!!

MAJOR! DON'T TEAR UP THE STREET!

hmph

WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY?!

THAT IS THE GREAT LAW OF THE COSMOS!

WE MUST TEAR DOWN IN ORDER TO BUILD!

RRRIPPP

"CRA-ZY", EH?

A FELLOW ALCHEMIST KNOWS THE TRUTH IN WHAT I SAY.

TAA-

DAAAA

THAT'S SOME REALLY CRAZY ALCHEMY...

WHY DID HE TAKE HIS SHIRT OFF?

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, SCAR?

THERE ARE THREE MAIN STEPS TO ALCHEMICAL TRANSMUTATION ***ANALYSIS, DECONSTRUCTION*** AND ***RECONSTRUCTION.***

I KNEW IT

A FELLOW..?

ARE YOU SAYING ***HE'S*** AN ALCHE-MIST, TOO?

HE'S RECOVERED BY THIS TIME...

I SEE...SO HE'S STOPPED TRANSMUTING AT THE SECOND STAGE... THE STAGE OF ***DECONSTRUCTION!***

YEAH...

AND WHY DOES HE ONLY GO AFTER ONES WITH GOVERNMENT LICENSES...?

BUT IF HE'S AN ALCHEMIST, THEN HE'S GOING AGAINST HIS OWN PREACHINGS!

AND HE AUGMENTS HIS POWER WITH HIS ALCHEMY...

UNUSUALLY HIGH STRENGTH...

FOR HIS SIZE, HE HAS UNUSUALLY QUICK FOOTWORK...

HMM...

THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS. BUT...

BMP

BAP

BAP

BAP

VA

THERE!

VSH

NOW I'VE GOT YOU!

...HE SWINGS TOO WIDE AND LEAVES HIMSELF OPEN.

SNAP

AA

SKREEK

!

WFF

SK

SK

HE HAD ME CORNERED.. WHY'D HE PULL BACK?!

HMH

!!

BANG!

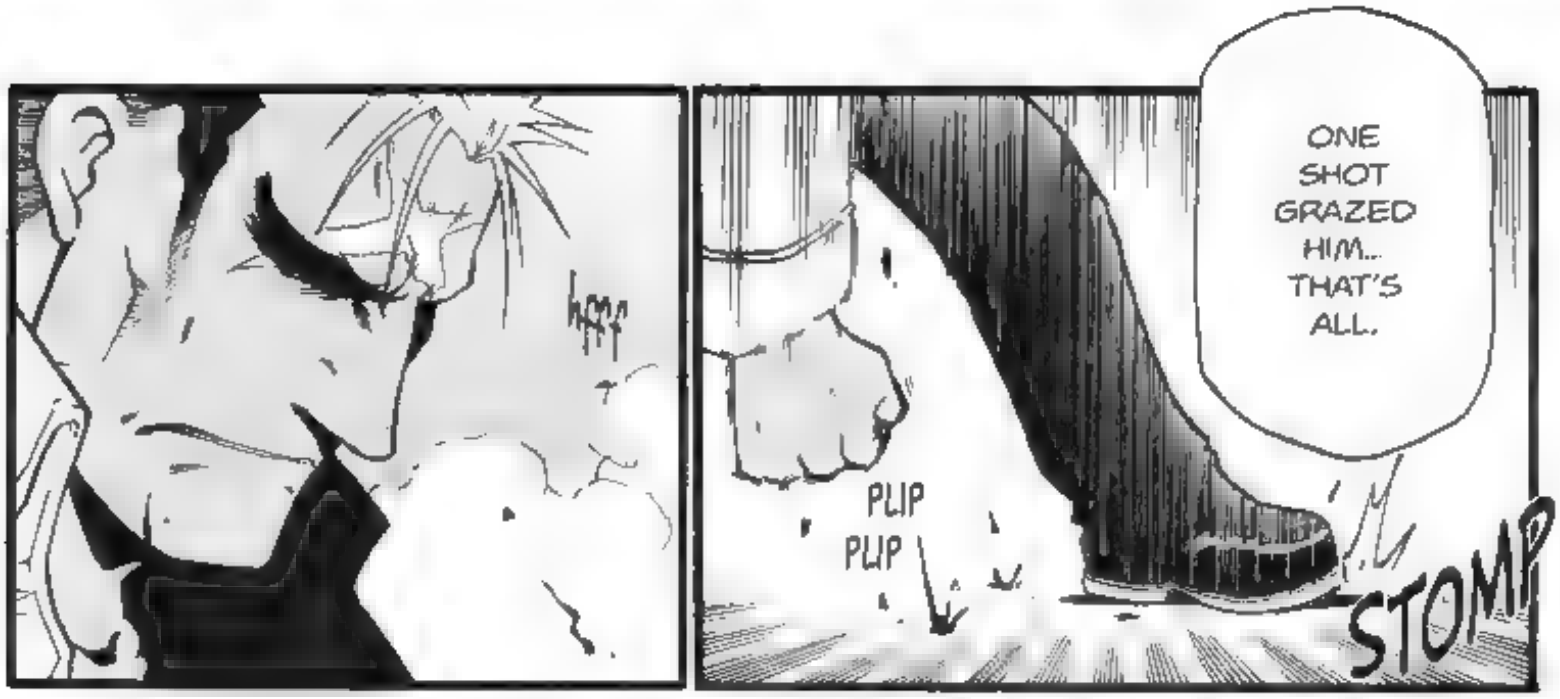
BANG!

BANG

BANG B-A-N-G

HE'S FAST.

DID YOU GET HIM !?

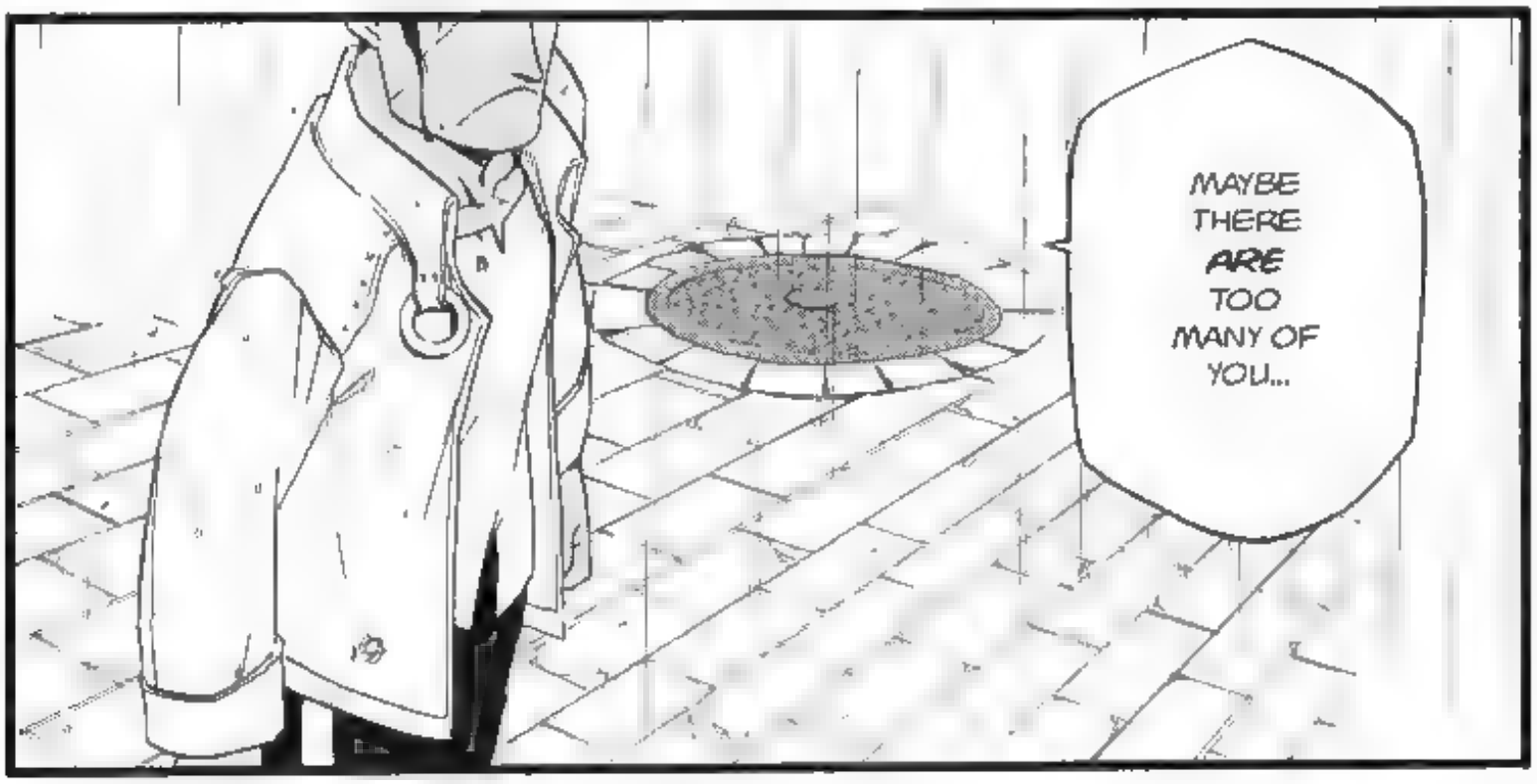

ONE SHOT GRAZED HIM... THAT'S ALL.
PLIP
PLIP
STOMP

GLARE

HE'S AN ISHBALAN...

...

RED EYES! AND HIS DARK SKIN...


MAYBE THERE ARE TOO MANY OF YOU...

CHK
DON'T TRY TO RUN FOR IT. YOU'RE SURROUNDED.
WHOA THERE !

GA

DM

BAAK

B-B-BAM

BOOM

AAGGGH !

KRBK

KRK RK

KATUMB

KRA KA KLATA KLK KRK

TH-THAT MANIAC WENT INTO THE SEWERS!

NO, NO, NO.

I'M SORRY. YOU GAVE US ENOUGH TIME TO SURROUND HIM AND...

YOU THINK I'M CHASING *HIM* DOWN *THERE*?!

DON'T GO AFTER HIM, HAVOC.

IT WAS ALL I COULD DO TO KEEP FROM BEING KILLED, MUCH LESS GIVE YOU MORE TIME...

HIDING! IF THINGS WENT BAD, ***SOMEONE*** HAD TO LIVE TO TELL THE TALE!

YEP!

LIEUTENANT COLONEL HUGHES... WHERE HAVE ***YOU*** BEEN ALL THIS TIME?

HEY? IS IT OVER?

PEEK

FORGET IT! DON'T TRY TO DRAG NORMAL HUMANS LIKE ME UNDER THE BIG TOP WITH THE REST OF YOU FREAKS!

YOU KNOW, NEXT TIME, COULD YOU CONSIDER POSSIBLY HELPING US?

AL- PHONSE !!

...

DISTRIBUTE AN IDENTI- FICATION SKETCH OF THE ASSAILANT! ON THE DOUBLE!

HEY! FIGHT'S OVER, WE'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

FREAKS...

AL! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! HEY!

GONG

YOU IDIOT!

ED-WARD...

BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO JUST LEAVE YOU HERE..

WHY DIDN'T YOU RUN WHEN I TOLD YOU TO!!?

BACHOOM

THAT'S WHAT I MEAN BY STUPID!!

D..DON'T TALK THAT WAY TO YOUR OLDER BROTHER!

WHEN THERE'S A WAY TO SURVIVE AND THEN YOU CHOOSE DEATH, THAT'S WHAT ***IDIOTS*** DO!!

I MIGHT ***NOT*** HAVE BEEN KILLED TOO!!

WHY?! IF I RAN AWAY YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN KILLED!!

YOU HAVE TO LIVE... AND KEEP LIVING... SO YOU CAN DO MORE RESEARCH! YOU HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO GET OUR OLD BODIES BACK...

GMP

I'LL TALK TO YOU HOWEVER I WANT!

...AND MAYBE EVEN SAVE POOR GIRLS LIKE NINA!

HUH?

KER-SNAP

OH NO, MY RIGHT ARM CAME OFF TOO...! IT'S YOUR FAULT, EDWARD! YOU IDIOT!

I WON'T LET YOU THROW THAT CHANCE AWAY!

IF YOU DID, I'D NEVER FORGIVE YOU!

HA-
HA..

HOW
UNCOOL.

WE'RE
A REAL
MESS,
AREN'T
WE?

WE'RE
ALIVE.

BUT
WE'RE
ALIVE.

YEAH.

THAT'S WHY THE BOND BETWEEN THOSE TWO IS SO STRONG.

HE MUST HAVE BEEN WILLING TO LAY DOWN HIS LIFE TO TRY SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THAT...SUIT OF ARMOR... IS HIS YOUNGER BROTHER?

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF TRANSMUTING A HUMAN SOUL...

WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL AT LEAST GET A MOMENT'S REST.

LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT GET WORSE.

SHAAAA A A

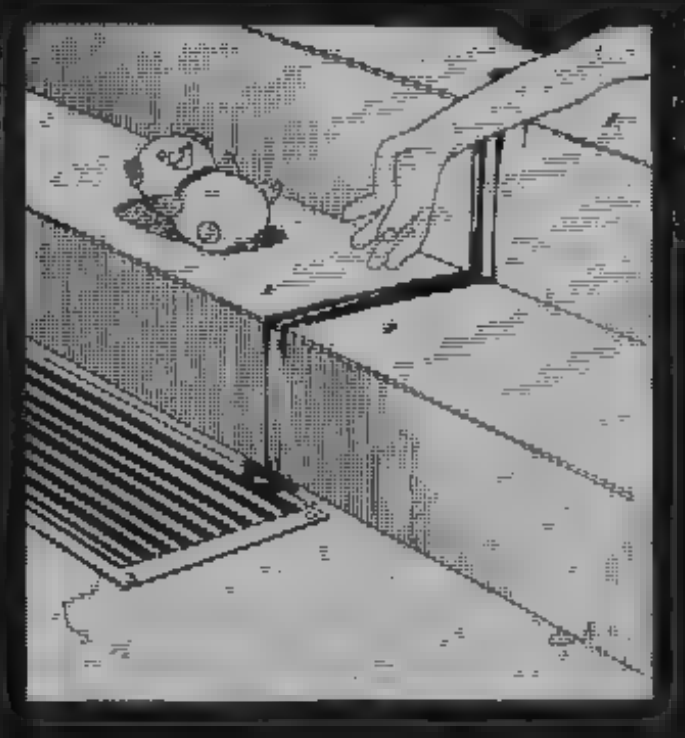
AND HE'S AN ISHBA-LAN...

I DON'T THINK *YOU* CAN REST YET, SIR.

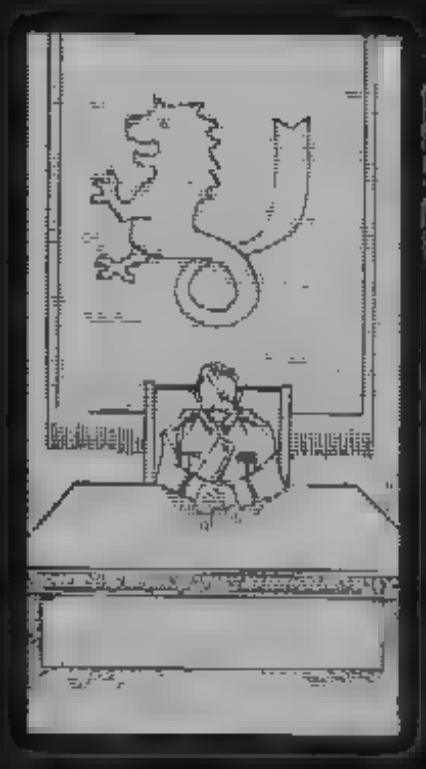
YOU'VE GOT A VERY DAN-GEROUS MAN AFTER YOU.

THE ISHBALANS ARE A PEOPLE FROM THE EAST, WHO BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, ISHVARA.

BUT THIRTEEN YEARS AGO, WHEN AN ARMY OFFICER ACCIDENTALLY SHOT AN ISHBALAN CHILD, THE INCIDENT EXPLODED INTO CIVIL WAR.



DUE TO RELIGIOUS DIFFERENCES, THEY'D ALWAYS BEEN IN CONFLICT WITH THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.



RIOT LED TO RIOT, AND SOON THE FIRES OF CIVIL WAR SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE EAST AREA. AFTER SEVEN FRUSTRATING YEARS, THE MILITARY COMMANDERS TOOK A NEW TACTIC...

THEY USED STATE ALCHEMISTS IN AN ALL-OUT GENOCIDE CAMPAIGN.

THEY WERE RECRUITED AS HUMAN WEAPONS. IT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO TEST THEIR SUITABILITY FOR WAR.

I WAS ONE OF THOSE ALCHE-MISTS.

THAT'S WHY THERE'S A CERTAIN JUSTICE THAT ONE OF THE LAST SURVIVING ISHBALANS WOULD SEEK REVENGE.

HE'S JUST CANDY-COATING IT BY ACTING SELF-RIGHTEOUS AND CALLING HIMSELF "AN INSTRUMENT OF GOD."

WHATEVER HAPPENED, HE'S STILL INVOLVING INNOCENT PEOPLE FOR THE SAKE OF HIS REVENGE.

IT'S STILL NOT JUS-TICE.

SOMEONE LIKE THAT, WHO'S EITHER TOTALLY INSANE OR DOESN'T CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK ABOUT THEM, IS ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS PEOPLE THERE IS.

FRANKLY, HE SCARES ME.

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SOMEONE WHO HATES ALCHEMY BUT USES THAT VERY SAME POWER TO GET REVENGE.

THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, THERE WON'T BE ANY EXPLA-NATIONS.

BECAUSE WE CAN'T AFFORD TO DIE YET.

WE CAN'T CARE WHAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT US, EITHER.

BECAUSE WE'LL KILL HIM.

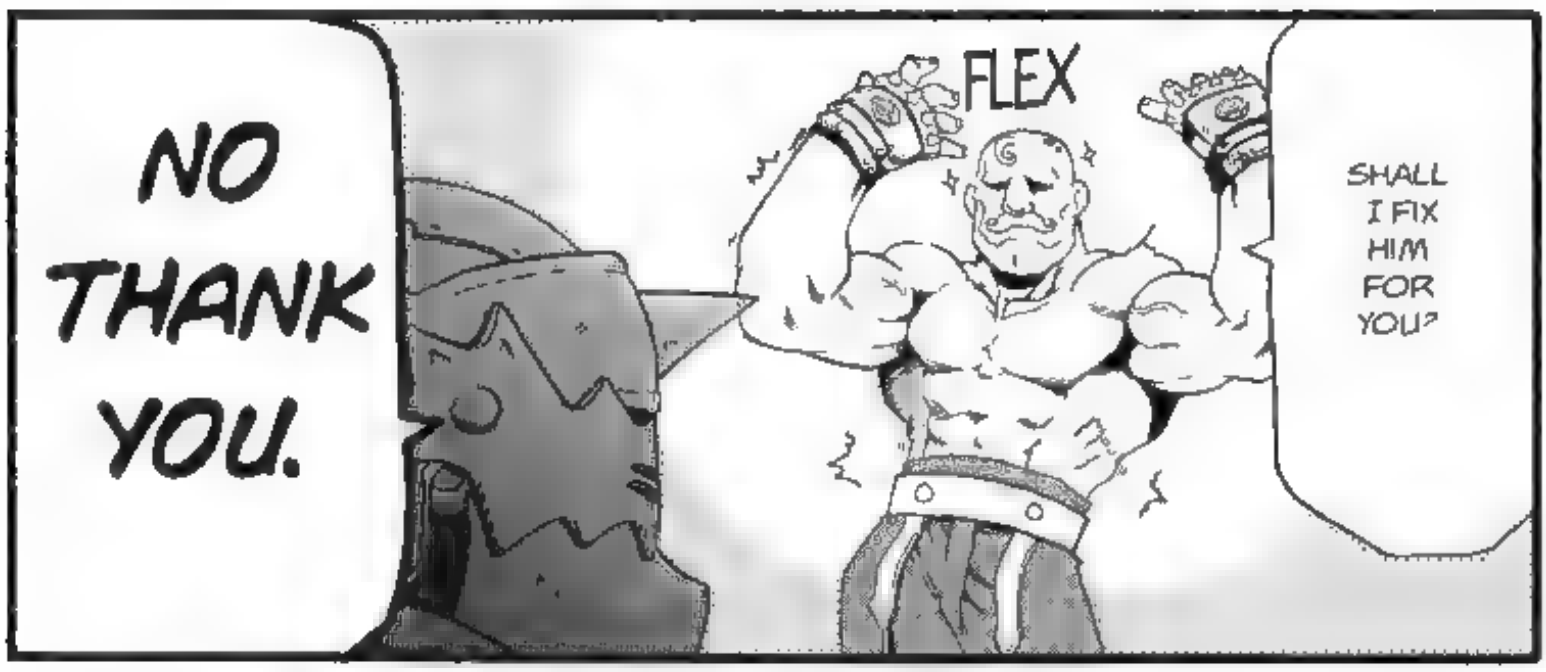
OKAY !

ON THAT CHEERFUL NOTE...THAT'S ENOUGH OF THIS POINTLESS CONVER-SATION.

PAF

WELL...I WANT TO FIX AL'S BODY, BUT I CAN'T PERFORM ALCHEMY WITH JUST ONE ARM...

SO WHAT ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO DO NOW ?


NO THANK YOU.
FLEX
SHALL I FIX HIM FOR YOU?

IF EDWARD CAN'T USE ALCHEMY, THEN HE'S JUST ..
RIGHT..

YUP.
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO KEEP AL'S SOUL IN THE ARMOR..
SO ANYWAY, FIRST I NEED A NEW ARM.

YOU'RE ALL PICKING ON ME!

SORRY, BIG BROTHER.. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO FOLLOW THAT..

USELESS, JUST USELESS!

AN ARROGANT PIP-SQUEAK...

UH HUH

...A LITTLE BRAT WHO SWEARS A LOT.

WA AAH!

FINE. I HAVE NO CHOICE...

I HAVE TO GO SEE MY MECHANIC.

FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST

I GOT A TON OF WORK WAITING FOR ME BACK IN CENTRAL.

I CAN'T LEAVE THE EAST HEAD-QUARTERS.

I'M TOO BUSY BABYSITTING THE COLONEL.

SOMEONE HAS TO KEEP HIM IN LINE.

OUR THOUGHTS EXACTLY.

I DON'T THINK I CAN PROTECT YOU FROM SOMEONE THAT DANGEROUS.

BUT WHY... OF EVERYBODY THEY COULD HAVE SENT...

WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE *HIM*?!

Chapter 8:
The Road of Hope

SNIFF SNIFF

SQUEEZE!

AGGGHH!

KRAK SNAP POP

OH, EDWARD ELRIC! I'VE HEARD SO MUCH ABOUT YOU!

STAY BACK.

I AM SO MOVED!

THE BROTHERLY LOVE THAT MADE YOU RISK YOUR OWN LIFE TO BRING BACK YOUR YOUNGER BROTHER'S SOUL!

THE PURE LOVE THAT LED YOU TO TRY TO RESURRECT YOUR DEAD MOTHER!

WELL...WHEN THE MAJOR IS LEANING ON YOU, IT'S HARD NOT TO TELL HIM WHAT HE WANTS...

UH...SO WHO TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT ME, COLONEL ?

HUH ?!

...THAT'S WHY I'VE DECIDED TO ESCORT YOU ON YOUR TRIP TO YOUR ENGINEER .

AHEM

KNOWING THE DETAILS OF YOUR PAST...

EDWARD.

YOU MUST BE CRAZY! I DON'T NEED A GUARD!

UGH.

BUT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THE MAJOR !

PLUS, WITH YOUR ARM THE WAY IT IS, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CARRY AL EITHER.

OF COURSE WE'RE GOING TO ASSIGN A GUARD TO YOU. OTHERWISE YOU'D BE TOTALLY DEFENSE-LESS.

YOU'RE PLANNING TO TRAVEL AROUND IN THAT STATE WHEN SCAR COULD ATTACK YOU AT ANY MOMENT?

I'M TOO BUSY BABYSITTING THE COLONEL. SOMEONE HAS TO KEEP HIM IN LINE.

I DON'T THINK I CAN PROTECT YOU FROM SOMEONE THAT DANGER-OUS.

OUR THOUGHTS EXACTLY.

I GOT A TON OF WORK WAITING FOR ME BACK IN CENTRAL.

I CAN'T LEAVE THE EAST HEAD-QUARTERS.

NOW, YOU BOYS... PLEASE LISTEN TO YOUR ELDERS.

GRRAA!!

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID!!

SMAK

SO IT'S DECIDED !

NOTHING'S "DECIDED" !

WHY YOU...

HEY AL! ARE YOU GONNA TAKE THAT?!

WOWW!

IT'S NO USE...

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE'S TREATED ME LIKE A KID SINCE MY BODY BECAME ARMOR!

OH, ED!

HMH...NOW THAT IT'S DECIDED, LET'S PACK UP.

WHAT?! YOU DIRTY...!

HA HA HA HA

IF YOU STILL PLAN ON MAKING A FUSS, WOULD YOU PREFER TO BE COURT-MARTIALED FOR DISOBEYING ORDERS?

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE'S TREATED ME LIKE LUGGAGE SINCE MY BODY BECAME ARMOR..

BAGGAGE FEES ARE CHEAPER THAN TRAVEL FEES!

GLOOM GLOOM GLOOM

MY POOR BROTHER...

TA-DA

NOW I CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A WHOLE TRAIN RIDE WITH THIS BOZO...

Sigh...

I TOLD YOU, DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A KID!

DID YOU BRING YOUR HANDKER-CHIEF?

YOU GET READY TOO, EDWARD ELRIC.

HEY.

LIEU-TENANT COLO-NEL HUGHES!

RAP RAP

FROM THE COLO-NEL?

OH YEAH, I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM ROY.

THE GUYS AT HEADQUARTERS SAY THEY'RE TOO BUSY TO COME, SO I CAME HERE INSTEAD TO SEE YOU OFF

WHAT IS IT?

IN THAT CASE, YOU AND ROY ARE GONNA LIVE FOR-EVER!

HA HA HA! THEY SAY THAT THE RUDER YOU ARE, THE LUCKIER YOU ARE!

FINE. TELL HIM, "UNDERSTOOD. I'D NEVER DIE BEFORE YOU, COLONEL, YOU @#'S IDIOT."

THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.

"I WON'T ALLOW YOU TO DIE IN MY JURISDICTION BECAUSE IT'D BE A PAIN TO CLEAN UP THE MESS."

SNAP

ALL RIGHT THEN, HAVE A SAFE TRIP!

FOOO

PHWEEE

PH

LET ME KNOW IF YOU'RE EVER OUT IN CENTRAL.

WEEEEEEE

SORRY GOTTA USE MY LEFT..

THEY'LL GIVE ME A GOOD DEAL BECAUSE I'VE KNOWN THEM FOR A LONG TIME. THEY DO GOOD WORK, TOO.

WELL, TO BE MORE PRECISE, THEY'RE A SURGEON, A WEAPONSMITH SPECIALIZING IN PROSTHESES, AND AN AUTO-MAIL EXPERT.

SO, THIS PERSON YOU KNOW IS AN AUTO-MAIL MECHANIC? I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE IN THAT LINE OF WORK.

THERE'S NOTHING FOR MILES.

JUST A QUAINT LITTLE TOWN.

AND WHAT KIND OF PLACE IS THIS RESEM-BOOL?

YOU'RE MAKING MY EARS HURT.

THAT'S GOOD. SHOULD I SAY SOME MORE?

KLATA KLATA KLATA

IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A BUSTLING CITY IF THE MILITARY HAD BEEN MORE ON TOP OF THINGS.

ACTUALLY, EVERYTHING GOT DESTROYED BECAUSE OF THE CIVIL WAR IN THE EAST.

IT'S IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, BUT IT HAS A LOT OF THINGS YOU CAN'T GET IN THE CITY.

KLATA

...IT'S REALLY A QUIET PLACE.

KLATA KLATA

THAT'S ME AND AL'S HOME-TOWN... RESEM-BOOL.

HMH HMH... YES, I TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING.

BY THE WAY... YOU **DID** PUT AL ON THIS TRAIN, RIGHT?

YOU JERK! THAT'S WORSE THAN THE LUGGAGE CAR!

I THOUGHT HE MIGHT GET LONELY BY HIM-SELF...

KLATA KLATA

LIVESTOCK CAR

KLATA KLATA

BAAH

BAAH

BAAH

RAAAR

QUIT MESSING WITH MY BROTHER !

AAARGG

RAAAA

HE'S GOT PLENTY OF ROOM, IT'S CHEAP, THERE'S LOTS OF LIVING THINGS... WOOLY FRIENDS...

HMH... REALLY, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM ?

BRITISH NAVAL COMMANDER MURDER

FOOM

SHFF

WAGH
?!

DR. MARCOH !!

IT'S ALEX LOUIS ARMSTRONG FROM CENTRAL!

AREN'T YOU DR. MARCOH !?

SOME-ONE YOU KNOW ?

YES...

UH...

WSH

HE WAS STUDYING THE USE OF ALCHEMY FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES, BUT HE VANISHED DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

HE'S A SKILLED ALCHEMIST WHO WAS INVOLVED IN THE ALCHEMY RESEARCH DEPARTMENT AT CENTRAL.

IF HE USED TO DO THAT KIND OF RESEARCH, THEN HE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT BIOLOGICAL TRANS-MUTATION TOO!

HMH? DON'T WE GET OFF AT RESEM-BOOL ?

LET'S GET OFF !

WHOA! AL, YOU SMELL LIKE SHEEP !!

T'S NOT MY FAULT THAT I SMELL!

GLOOM

EXCUSE ME. WE'RE GETTING OFF HERE!

COME ON!

WE HAVE TO GET AL AND THE BAGGAGE OFF TOO!

UH.. EXCUSE ME...WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO JUST PASSED BY...

AHEM

HAVE YOU SEEN AN ELDERLY MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE THIS?

OR MARCOH...

WELL, WELL...

SURE, WE KNOW HIM!

OH THAT'S DR. MAURO !

IT'S THE SKILL OF PORTRAITURE THAT'S BEEN PASSED DOWN FOR GENERATIONS IN THE ARMSTRONG FAMILY!

YOU'RE A GOOD ARTIST, MAJOR...

HE TREATS PATIENTS THAT MOST DOCTORS WOULD SAY DON'T HAVE A CHANCE TO SURVIVE!

HE'S A GOOD MAN!

YUP

MOST PEOPLE HERE CAN'T AFFORD DOCTORS, BUT DR. MAURO TREATS PEOPLE FOR FREE.

AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS ISN'T THE RICHEST TOWN IN THE WORLD.

"MAURO ?"

THAT'S RIGHT

IT'S LIKE THERE'S A FLASH OF LIGHT AND THEN YOU'RE HEALED!

WHEN HE TREATS YOU..

'S TRUE! WHEN I GOT MY LEG STUCK IN THE WEED PULLER AND ALMOST DIED, HE FIXED IT GOOD AS NEW!

GA HA HA

YES, IT MUST BE ALCHEMY.

A FLASH OF LIGHT...

PERHAPS HE THOUGHT WE WERE SENT HERE TO BRING HIM BACK.

APPARENTLY WHEN THE DOCTOR DISAPPEARED, SOME OF THE TOP-SECRET RESEARCH MATERIAL DISAPPEARED TOO.

SO HE'S BEEN USING AN ALIAS AND HIDING OUT IN THE COUNTRY-SIDE

IT WAS RUMORED THAT HE STOLE IT AND RAN...

BUT WHY? WHAT'S HE HIDING FROM?

KREEE

HELLO THERE? ANY BODY..

...HOME ?

WHAT DID YOU COME FOR ?

WHOA !!

BL AM

DID YOU COME TO TAKE ME BACK !?

PLEASE CALM DOWN, DOCTOR.

I BEG YOU! LET ME GO...!

I'LL NEVER GO BACK TO THAT PLACE !

YOU CAN'T FOOL ME !!

FIRST, IF YOU COULD PLEASE LOWER YOUR GUN...

SO YOU CAME TO *KILL* ME AND SHUT ME UP FOR GOOD!?

NO, THAT'S NOT IT. PLEASE LISTEN...

I COULDN'T STAND IT ANY MORE...

I SAID, PLEASE CALM DOWN.

SMUSH

AND THEN SEEING IT USED IN THE CIVIL WAR TO SLAUGHTER HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE...

HAVING TO OBEY THEIR ORDERS... DIRTYING MY HANDS TO RESEARCH THE THINGS I DID...

SO MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE DIED...

IT WAS AN AWFUL WAR...

BUT STILL I TRY TO DO WHAT I CAN..THAT'S WHY I WORK AS A DOCTOR IN THIS PLACE.

I COULDN'T MAKE UP FOR MY ACTIONS IF I PAID FOR THEM FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.

WHAT WERE YOU RESEARCHING BEFORE YOU LEFT? WHAT DID YOU TAKE WITH YOU...?

I WAS MAKING THE PHILOS-OPHER'S STONE.

YEAH.

YOU HAVE THE STONE IT?

I TOOK THE STONE AND THE RESEARCH DATA.

GLUP

HERE IT IS.

...HUH?

drip

HUH !!?

"STONE"? IT LOOKS LIKE A LIQUID..

POP

WOBBLE

JUST AS THERE ARE MANY NAMES FOR THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE, IT SEEMS THAT IT MIGHT NOT BE A STONE AT ALL.

TAP TAP

THE ***SAGE'S STONE***... THE ***STONE OF HEAVEN***... THE ***GREAT ELIXIR***...THE ***RED TINCTURE***... THE FIFTH ELEMENT.

WA HA HA HA HA

AN IMPERFECT COM-POUND.. SO THAT'S WHAT CORNELLO HAD...

BUT EVEN SO, COMPOUNDS LIKE THESE WERE SECRETLY USED THROUGHOUT THE CIVIL WAR, AND THEY WERE TREMENDOUSLY SUCCESSFUL.

IT'S AN IMPERFECT COMPOUND, AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW WHEN IT WILL REACH ITS LIMITS AND CEASE TO WORK.

BUT THIS IS JUST SOMETHING THAT WAS CREATED FOR EXPERIMENTAL PURPOSES.

WHAT IS?

DR. MARCOH! CAN YOU PLEASE SHOW ME YOUR DATA?

IT MAY BE IMPERFECT... BUT THE FACT THAT YOU MADE IT MEANS THAT IT MUST BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE PERFECT STONE SOMEDAY, RIGHT?

HE'S A STATE ALCHE-MIST.

MAJOR ARMSTRONG, WHO *IS* THIS CHILD...?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN TO DO WITH SUCH A THING?

HE HAS A STATE LICENSE AT HIS AGE...? HE MUST HAVE BEEN LURED BY THE PROMISES OF PRIVILEGE AND RESEARCH MONEY... HOW FOOLISH!

THIS *BOY*?

BUT YOU STILL...

DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY ALCHEMISTS THREW AWAY THEIR LICENSES AFTER THE WAR? I WASN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO HATED MYSELF FOR BEING USED AS A WEAPON...

I HAVE TO ACHIEVE MY GOAL...EVEN IF IT MEANS SLEEPING ON THIS BED OF NAILS...

BUT *I HAD TO*!

I KNOW IT WAS FOOLISH!

IF YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF TALENT, YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO CREATE A COMPLETE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE.

I'M SURPRISED THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO TRANSMUTE A SOUL...

SO... YOU COMMITTED THE ULTIMATE SIN...

SO THEN...

GETTING YOUR ORIGINAL BODY BACK...THE STONE SHOULDN'T BE USED FOR SOMETHING SO TRITE.

I'VE SAID EVERYTHING I'M GOING TO SAY.

BUT WHY NOT ?!

BUT I CAN'T ALLOW YOU TO SEE MY DATA!

IT'S THE WORK OF THE DEVIL.

NO ONE WILL EVER SEE MY RESEARCH.

DOCTOR! ISN'T THAT A LITTLE HARSH... ?

TRITE ?!

AND IT CAN ONLY LEAD STRAIGHT TO HELL.

I'VE ALREADY SEEN HELL!

..NO.

PLEASE GO.

I'VE ALREADY SEEN HELL !

YEAH...I WANTED IT SO BAD THAT I COULD TASTE IT...

YOU COULDN'T LOOK AT THE DATA, BUT YOU COULD HAVE TAKEN THE STONE BY FORCE IF YOU'D WANTED TO.

ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH HOW THAT TURNED OUT?

HUH?

BUT WHEN I THOUGHT ABOUT THE PEOPLE WE MET ON THE WAY TO DR. MARCOH'S HOUSE...

...IT WOULD LEAVE A BAD TASTE IN MY MOUTH.

I DECIDED THAT IF I STOLE THE THING HE USED TO HEAL THEM, JUST TO GET MY OLD BODY BACK...

UH-HUH.

I'LL JUST THINK OF A DIFFERENT WAY TO GET MY BODY BACK.

RIGHT?

DON'T YOU HAVE TO REPORT DR. MARCOH TO CENTRAL?

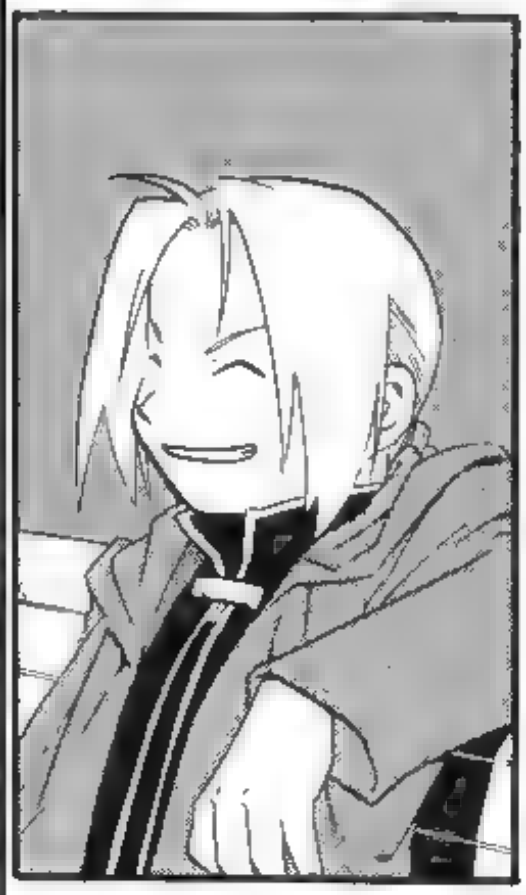
SO ARE ***YOU*** SATISFIED, MAJOR?

OH MAN, WE'RE BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED.

THIS ROAD SURE IS LONG

THE PERSON I MET WAS AN ORDINARY TOWN DOCTOR NAMED MAURO.

HMPH

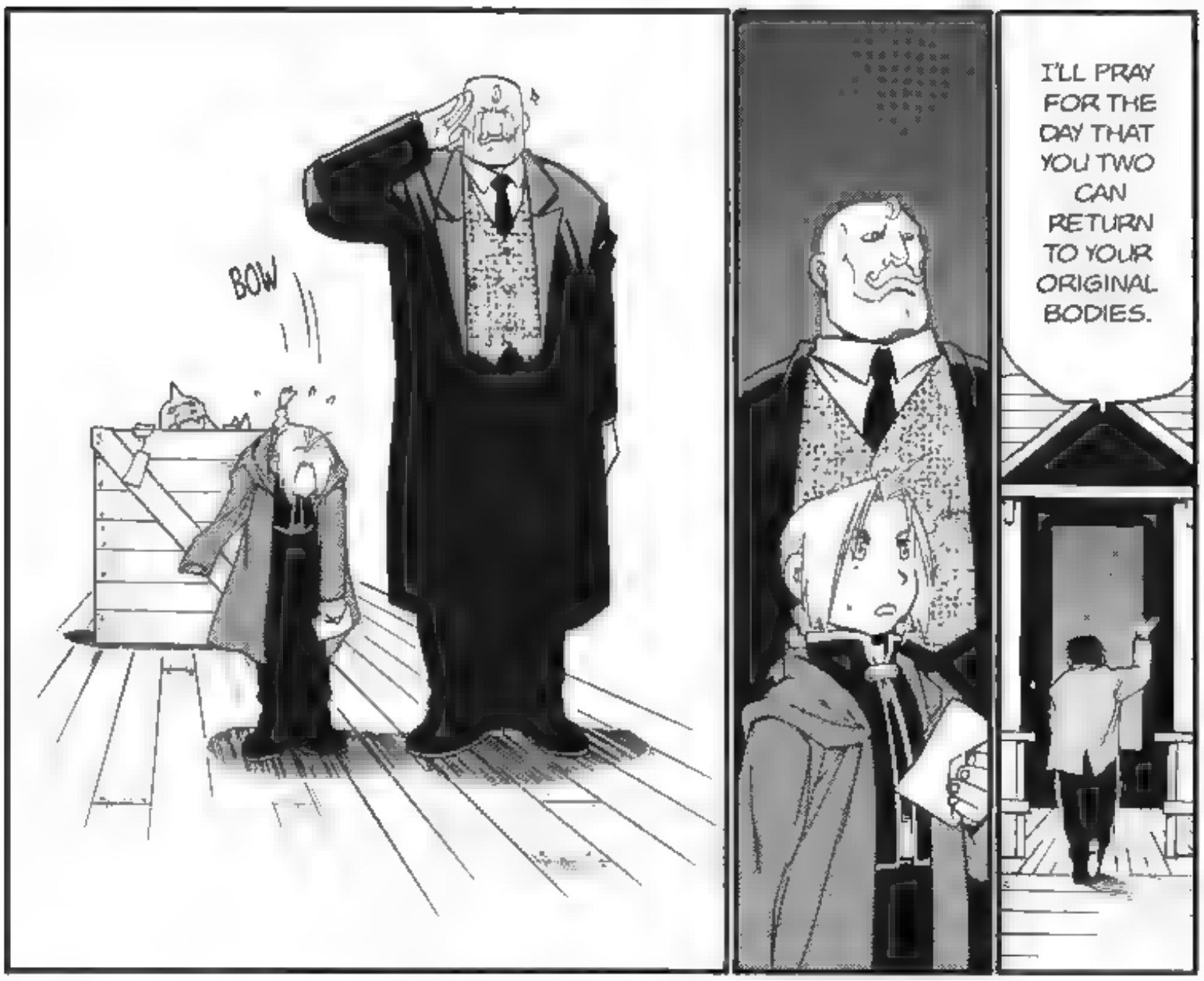


THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE I HID MY DATA. I WROTE DOWN THE LOCATION
DR. MARCOH...?
HEY YOU!

IF YOU CAN LOOK THE TRUTH IN THE FACE, THEN DO IT.

THEN YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO REACH THE TRUTH THAT LIES *WITHIN* THE TRUTH...

I'VE SAID TOO MUCH.
...NEVER MIND.


BOW
I'LL PRAY FOR THE DAY THAT YOU TWO CAN RETURN TO YOUR ORIGINAL BODIES.

SIGH
CLAK

IT'S BEEN A WHILE, MARCOH.

I WAS TAILING THE FULLMETAL BOY...AND YOU JUST DROPPED INTO MY LAP.

EVEN IF YOU'RE OUT OF THE PICTURE, YOUR SUBORDINATES ARE TAKING CARE OF THINGS QUITE WELL.

WHA...?

DON'T WORRY, I'M NOT HERE TO TAKE YOU BACK.

BAMM

!!

OH MY...PLEASE DON'T FORGET THAT ***WE*** WERE THE ONES WHO TAUGHT ***YOU*** HOW TO MAKE PHILOSOPHER'S STONES.

ARE YOU...

ARE YOU STILL MAKING THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS !?

YOUR LEAVING, AND TAKING YOUR DATA, DIDN'T SLOW DOWN OUR RESEARCH AT ALL.

I WANTED TO BELIEVE THAT I HAD MADE A MISTAKE AND THAT IT WAS ALL A TERRIBLE DREAM..

SO I WAS RIGHT.

YOU DEVIL... !!

YOU STARTED TO HAVE SUSPICIONS TOO, DIDN'T YOU? THAT'S WHY YOU LEFT THE LAB...

ISN'T THAT SO ?

unh...

BUT THAT DATA YOU TOOK... !

IF AN ORDINARY PERSON SEES IT, IT'S NO BIG DEAL. BUT IF AN ALCHEMIST OF THAT BOY'S LEVEL SEES IT, IT COULD CAUSE A LOT OF TROUBLE.

SPURT

THE DATA YOU STOLE...

YOU TOLD HIM WHERE IT IS, DIDN'T YOU?

AAAGGHH!

DON'T GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS.

GUAGGH!

TWIST

DON'T LIE TO ME.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE..

THAT BOY IS SMART..

HEH...

I'VE GOT A LOT OF THINGS TO DO, MARCOH.

WHEN HE SEES THAT DATA, HE'LL EVENTUALLY FIGURE OUT THE TRUTH...

HE'LL REALIZE WHAT YOU AND THE OTHERS ARE TRYING TO DO.

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR CHIT-CHAT.

I'LL NEVER ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN.

YOU'RE GOING TO DIE HERE!

BECAUSE I'VE GOT YOU!

SKSH

OH, YOU WON'T?

HA HA HA HA HA! YOU DON'T HAVE A CHOICE!

DOM

GLUSH

HA HA... YOU DIDN'T EXPECT...

THAT ..

NOW YOU'VE MADE ME DIE ONCE.

HOW MEAN OF YOU...

SHK

...!!

KATUMP

I'D FORGOT-TEN...

SNIK

ZZT ZZT

...THAT YOU'RE ANOTHER ALCHEMIST TO USE AS A HUMAN SACRIFICE.

WHAT SHOULD I DO WITH YOU?

WELL NOW.

THIS IS IMPOS-SIBLE...!

NO...

!!

KIRI! STAY BACK!!

TMP

I BROUGHT SOME FLOWERS!

DOCTOR MARCOH!

SHIK

CHUK

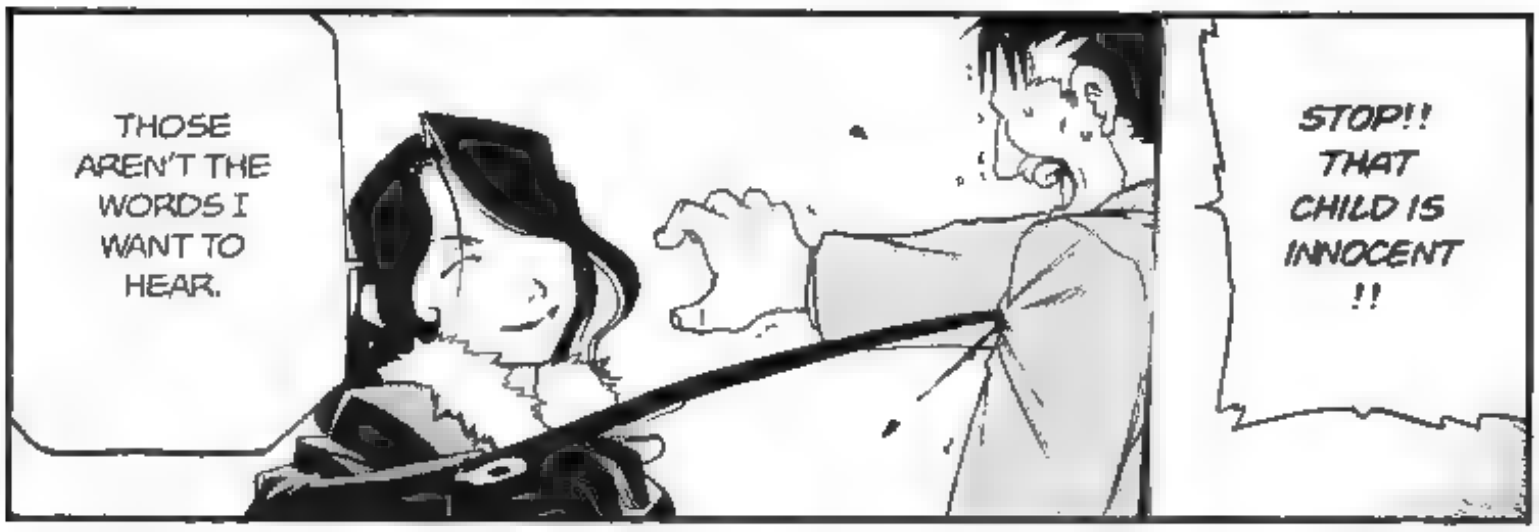
KIRI !!

AREN'T YOU A GOOD LITTLE GIRL...

TWANNNG

YOU KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN, DON'T YOU?

MARCOH... IF I TWIST MY HAND EVEN SLIGHTLY...


THOSE AREN'T THE WORDS I WANT TO HEAR.
STOP!! THAT CHILD IS INNOCENT !!

TELL ME.

TH-THE DATA IS HIDDEN IN...

YES... WHERE ?

"TIM MARCOH..."

National central library

1st branch

Tim Marcoh

"NATIONAL CENTRAL LIBRARY, FIRST BRANCH..."

THAT'S WHERE I'LL FIND CLUES ABOUT THE STONE...!

GRIP

THEIR BOOK COLLECTION IS BEYOND COMPARE THERE MUST BE MILLIONS OF VOLUMES.

I SEE... "IF YOU WANT TO HIDE A TREE, PLACE IT IN A FOREST..."

YEAH!

GOOD JOB, BIG BROTH-ER! WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "HUMAN SACRIFICE"?

WHO THE HELL *ARE* YOU PEOPLE...?

HOW CLEVER OF YOU TO HIDE IT IN THE LIBRARY.

I THOUGHT YOU HAD TAKEN IT AND RAN.

UNTIL THEN, MARCOH, I'LL LET YOU LIVE.

DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH.

IF YOU GET ANY FUNNY IDEAS...

WELL...

BUT DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT RUNNING ANYWHERE ELSE...OR GETTING IN OUR WAY AGAIN.

I'LL ERASE THIS TOWN FROM THE MAP.

THIS MANGA WAS ORIGINALLY PRINTED IN MONTHLY **SHONEN GANGAN**, DECEMBER 2001 THROUGH MARCH 2002.

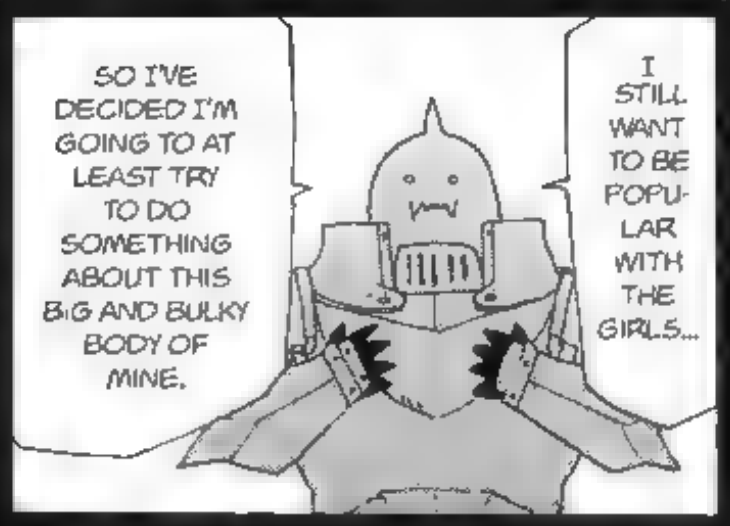
TO BE CONTINUED IN **FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST** VOL. 3...

A SPECIAL PRESENT FOR GOOD BOYS AND GIRLS!

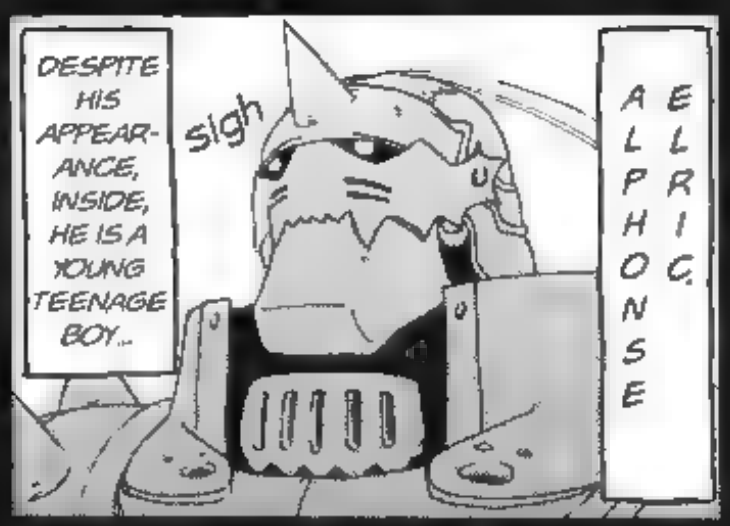
MAJOR ARMSTRONG LUCKY CHARM

※ Please be extra careful when using it.

FIRST, DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE LOINCLOTH


SO I'VE DECIDED I'M GOING TO AT LEAST TRY TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS BIG AND BULKY BODY OF MINE.
I STILL WANT TO BE POPU-LAR WITH THE GIRLS...

POPULARITY EMPIRE



SO WHAT IF YOU DON'T LOOK HUMAN! IT'S NOT ABOUT WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE ON THE OUTSIDE!!
OH, EDWARD !
DON'T WORRY! I'LL FIND YOU A NICE GIRL FRIEND!

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST 2

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

KEISUI TAKAEDA-SAN

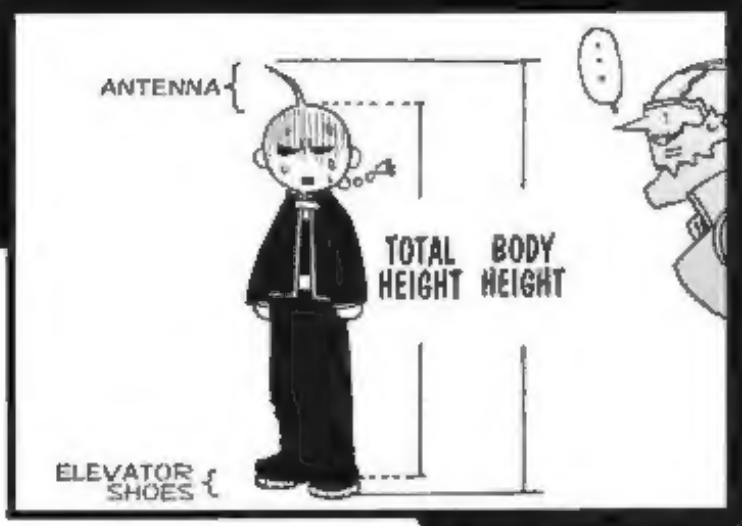
SANKICHI HINODEYA-CHAN

JUN MORIYASU-SAN

YUICHI SHIMOMURA-SHI
(MANAGER)

AND YOU!!

THE PITIFUL TRUTH



CAN HUMANS HANDLE THE TRUTH?

I'LL HAVE IT FOR YOU IN *THREE DAYS.*

PHOOO

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE ME.

SNEE EEER

AND WILL GOD OR THE DEVIL...

...BE THE ONE WHO LAUGHS LAST?!

SPLASH

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST VOL. 3

In Memoriam

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST ②

Hiromu Arakawa

Translation: Akira Watanabe

Touch-up Art & Lettering: Wayne Truman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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Hachette Book Group
237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017

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First Yen Press ebook Edition: April 2014

ebook ISBN: 978-0-316-28551-3

App ISBN: 978-0-316-33381-8